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Mortal Kombat
Preview**

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Pick up someone else's litter

Send your mum some flowers

Strip right down to your underwear

Go for a run around the block

Ring 071 760 1000 and tell London something it needs to know

Tune your radio to Kiss and pull the knob off

Believe in yourself

Eat a pineapple

Write the alphabet backwards

Order an empty ship and leave it outside your house for a week

Meet an old friend you haven't seen for years

Make a record

Dance the dance electric

Plant a tree

Learn a second language

Every day at the same time stop and think about something wonderful

Go and see Ryan Giggs

Get your nipple pierced

Read a page from a book by Charles Dickens

Play football in the street

Give £100 to a down and out

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Make a statement

Visit Great Ormond Street Hospital

Go to the market and spend 10p

Help someone today

Wear a wig

Make everyone at work a cup of tea

Take a picture of your back

Take a friend to the zoo

Go for a day without spending

Say a prayer every night

Have a day without TV

Buy a book on Jeff Koons

Score at the clouds for a full ten minutes

Buy Marvin Gaye's 'What's going on'

Tell someone a secret

Begin something you've always wanted to begin

Talk to a child about the future

Think purple


Wallpaper the inside of your car

Go on holiday and don't take any luggage

Laugh

100% ALIVE

MASTER



Congratulations, you're the proud owner of SEGA MASTER FORCE Issue 2! This wondrous magazine will provide you with months of endless fun and, with a bit of tender loving care, grow into a valuable and trusted friend. Within these pages you'll find up-to-the-minute 8-bit news, previews, reviews, a massive tips section, loopy letters, cracking compos and a bulging buyers' guide. Just remember to feed and water this issue twice a day, take it for regular walks and you'll have a pal for life!

THE

FLASH™



PLAN

SEGA
master
FORCE

SEPTEMBER 1993



KOMBAT FATIGUE

14 Could this be the game to top Street Fighter II? We take a peek at Accolade's forthcoming fighting game in our massive four-page preview!



FLASH BACK!

18 Are we looking at another Sonic. The Hedgehog? There's speedy action this month with DC Comics' scarlet superheroes, The Flash. Read the review then take part in our stunning competition to win red-hot Flash videos and comics!



AWESOME ANDRE

35 SEGA MASTER FORCE have linked up with TacMagik and sporting superstar Andre Agassi for the giveaway of a lifetime! There's prizes a-plenty to be won in our EXCLUSIVE competition.



PLATFORM POWER

10 Need to know what's hot and what's not in the world of platform games? We've got the lowdown on ten of Sega's 8-bit platformers.

GUIDING LIGHT

58 With so many Master System games to pick from it's often tricky making that fateful choice. Check out the SEGA MASTER FORCE Buyers' Guide to find out how we, the professionals, rate the 8-bit titles currently available.

FORCE-FULL!

31 If you're a Game Gear owner, this is the section for you! Eight pages packed with everything you need to know about the latest in handheld games and gaming.

A La Cart Menu

<i>Appetizers</i>	
Mortal Kombat	14
<i>Dish of the day</i>	
The Flash	18
<i>Chef's special</i>	
GP Rider	34
California Games 2	37
World Tournament Golf	36
Home Alone	38
<i>Just desserts</i>	
Jason Bond GO	34
Drunk Striker GO	35
Travis World Cup Soccer GO	36

REGULARS

System Addict **41**

How does he do it? Yet again Paul Wooding (master of the devious trick) has rattled up more maps, players' guides, tips and cheats that you could possibly need! This month we've a complete Batman Returns players' guide to help you out with those Dark Knights PLUS more snail tips than you can shake a leg stick at!

Cart Toppers **51**

The only place to find the OFFICIAL Virgin Games Top 20 Master System games. First out which are the winners and shakes this month as that master of the final month, Gutter Snipe, gives you his regular running commentary!

Letters **51**

He's back again! Gutter Snipe ploughs through your monthly musings and sends scoldings. Take a peek at the reader art and try to spot the world's next Vincent Van Gogh!

Classifieds **64**

Want to trade in that soft Nintendo? Want about swapping your rusty bike for something, er, not-so-rusty? This is the place to be if you're after a bargain or want to place an ad for FREE.

September 1993

SEGA
master
FORCE

5 contents

STOP PRESS!

We've a packed news section this month with all that's hot and all that's not in the Master System world! Check out our exclusive info on MS Micro Machines, Adventures of Dixie, Cool Spot, Addams Family and much more. We also take a peek at a new graphic novel featuring those cuddly Aliens and there's speedy goings-on in Demark's brand new racing game. Read on for fun, facts and fancy stuff...



Welcome, System add-on, to the second issue of **SEGA MASTER FORCE** — the only magazine in the world dedicated to Sega's marvelous Master System.

Where other 8-bit machines have withered away and died (hey, finding a new cart for the NES nowadays), the Master System goes from strength to strength. The fact that all of the major developers are still backing the format is a reason to be excited at, and the games currently in production look set to take the machine to new limits.

Atsushi's magnificent *Master Kombat*, for example, promises to finally provide MS owners with a beat-'em-up to be proud of while Demark's *Desert Strike* appears ready to provide to any of its other fans.

Feedback from our fabulous first issue, meanwhile, continues to pour in. Letters, phone calls and faxes coming in have put paid to any doubts lurking in the misty minds of industry pundits everywhere — and sealed our spot beyond comprehension!

This month we're giving you the first in an irregular series of game guides (look-up just pages 12-13) — perhaps you'll be so keen what you think! We're planning to cover all the major game types in a similar fashion over the coming months, so stay on top so which ones you'll most appreciate!

This is your magazine — after all, you paid for it, didn't you? — so don't hesitate to tell us what you'd like to see. Comments and suggestions on all aspects of the mag are welcome, as are any concerning the industry in general.

Really, there's just enough room to mention our special "Master Blaster" award (that's it as the bottom of the column). Given to games scoring 90% or over, whenever you see this logo in the mag you'll know a top's worth buying.

Okay, that's enough from me — on with the show!

Steve

Steve Haskin
Managing Editor

SEGA
master
blaster

MICROWAVED EGG!



Warwickshire-based software company, **Codemasters**, have lined up some terrific treats for Master System owners. Later this year, you can expect to see 8-bit conversions of both the incredible *Egg* Machines and the egg-oring *Adventures of Dixie*.

Already a hit on the Mega Drive, *Micro Machines* is being hailed as one of the top racing games available. MS owners have been lucky enough to play this cart for the past six months and now the MS gets a look-in.

Micro Machines is a high-speed game where you control a tiny vehicle around unusual real-life locales. Settings include a game pool table, back garden, bath tub and breakfast table! Can you win on slip, tackling computer-controlled oppo-

nents, or two players can challenge each other to a game of speedy skill.

Whichever option you choose, *Micro Machines* is a devil-proof game with tons of tongue-in-cheek humour (it scored a whopping 90% in *MEGA POWER* 14).

The fantastic *Adventures of Dixie* is a platform-based game that features the exploits of Codemasters' star, Dixie the Egg. Set in his home town, Dixie has to stop the evil Wizard Zark from achieving his devious plans.

His adventures take him through high rise-tops, diamond mines and even a dragon's lair. With a unique mixture of platform action and puzzle-solving, Dixie's set to be a huge success.

Expect to see both MS versions out before Christmas and join us next month as **SEGA MASTER FORCE** presents a massive (XCOUPY) preview of both games! Can't



Codemasters' *Micro Machines* features high-speed racing with tiny vehicles on oversized backgrounds.



Micro Machines on the Master System is based on the successful line of miniature toys.



multiple races and different vehicles such as cars, boats, trucks and helicopters are all on offer.

SHADY CHARACTER

Bring yourself. Cool Spot's back in town. This time he's returned to my side as the Master System.

The round, shady character is a spin of better. With Whizzo Billy Will, a mean dude with a silly larical and equally stupid items, has captured and ruled Cool Spot's friends, all named Spot.

Spot, gap, hamon, what will he do? Well he doesn't use his head, that's for sure. This guy's cooler than an alien's tailpipe.

The sophisticated Master has a stunning 150 frames of animation. He walks tall and runs smoothly, leaps long before taking, long boots from balloons, bounces between bubbles, slides ropes and wires, and all fresh ones to show himself down, down his shades and play with his pen. He even jumps when the player's performance isn't up to scratch.

Cool Spot boasts eleven stunning levels, plus six bonus rounds, all made a lot of fun. Cool Spot tries to stop you here, but Master ends before that cool when they lose their shade — they're left standing in their lower shade! There were hundred Cool Spot with shade chase and trouble, some you do their best to handle the scolar people.

Cool Spot should hit the shelves some time before Christmas. If you can't wait that long, look out for a full preview in a couple of issues' time.



GENIE-US!

Consumers' revolutionary invention, the MS Game Genie, has taken the States by storm. It's presently America's most-loved selling toy.

If you've never heard of a Game Genie before, where have you been? It's a game enhancement device (cheat cartridge, to you and me) which enables you to stop levels, obtain infinite lives, obtain power-ups, speed up or slow down, depending on the code you enter. You can even tamper with graphics to change the colour of characters. Can you picture a green Sonic?

That's all well and good, but why should it affect us Master System owners? According to a jolly lot of people we've heard through the grapevine, Code Masters are working on a Game Genie especially for the MS (bunch, bunch and snort all round).

Don't get too excited just yet, this is only a rumour, but we're usually well informed. Keep your eyes peeled and your ear to the ground for further info!

HIVE OF ACTIVITY



Fans of the *Alien* movie trilogy will definitely be interested in a new offering from Titan Books. *Alien: The* is the latest graphic novel featuring those many scary serpents from the hit sci-fi horror film.

For those who don't know, a graphic novel is a collection of comic-book issues or a one-shot story produced in high-quality paper with a soft paperboard cover, much like a book. The *Alien* graphic novels have been a massive hit with comic collectors and fans of the movie all over the world. *Alien: The* looks set to continue the trend.

Two humans, Dr. Synnister Haplophragma and Julian Lieb, have set out into space to find one of the nerve substances in the galaxy. It's a special jelly that's only produced by the Alien Queen — getting hold of this stuff isn't going to be easy!

Haplophragma needs the Royal Jelly to cure a fatal disease he's contracted. Lieb is helping him because the insects will tell the jelly to the wealthy, powerful Bio-National Corporation.

To have two humans get past hordes of Aliens and grab the jelly? Well, it has according to do with a cunning plan. Haplophragma's dog and a cybernetic Alien, but you'll have to read the exciting graphic novel to find out more.

Written by Jerry Preiner and drawn by acclaimed artist Kelley Jones (responsible for *Darkman*, *James* of *Alien* and *Johnny Rabe*), *Alien: The* is published by Titan Books and is now out, priced £9.95.

In space, no one can hear you read!

MORE SONIC COMIC CAPERS



In last month's *SEGA MASTER FORCE*, we told you all about the new book *The Comic*, published by Fleetway. As you would've read our review's that impressed with the spiffy new adventures — even though the first issue included a free badge!

If you're one of those people who can't get enough of the speedy *Sega* hero's adventures, there's another option. *Sonic: The Hedgehog* is a monthly comic book published by Archie in America to feature the adventures of Sonic and a small band of furry freedom fighters as they battle the might of Dr. Robotnik and his mechanical creatures.

This comic's reportedly based on a *Sonic* cartoon series due to appear on American TV some time in the autumn, but before you rush off to your magazines, the first *The Hedgehog* comic is only available in separate comic shops.

Don't panic, fans! What? What is that? It may be officially available in the UK later in the year. Haplophragma, if the original Archie edition takes your fancy, give *Publishing Planet* in London a call on (071) 634 4179.

TOAD IN THE HOLE!

Forget the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, the hottest green look to hit your wall are the **Batmanoids!** Originally American teenagers, the three lads were sucked into a video game and transformed. No longer were they skinny, weak and spotty — instead they're mean, green, and spaced back in their computer-generated world. Dan, Jack and Peeper vowed to battle the forces of evil and find a way back home.

However, no adventure would be complete without a suitably scary villain. In this case it's the Dark Queen, who has only one purpose in life: to destroy the Batmanoids! With the aid of her Peeper Pigs, Mutant Kungais and Satan Tootpicks, she aims to give the hoopy hoppers a run for their money.

Based on their ready comic-book adventures, Batmanoids is a varied platform romp on seven, 12-measure levels. Each Toad has a variety of moves, including such strange stunts as the Big Red Bait, Batmanoid Bait and Nuclear Knuckles.

Virtually identical to the Mega Drive game (reviewed in **SCA FORCE** 15), **MS Batmanoids** is being produced by Virgin Games and should be out in time for the festive new year. If the success of the original MS game is anything to go by, we might have a green Christmas!



What's six-foot tall, green and built like a brick out house? The Batmanoids are due to make their appearance on the Master System later this year.

DRAGON'S FURY

Though he died way back in 1973, there's still much to learn in the lives and life of martial arts expert Bruce Lee. This autumn sees the release of *Dragon*, a film which delves into his incredible life story. Newcomer Jason Scott Lee (an obvious play on the master himself).

Virgin Games have snapped up the rights to this famous fighting film and have a Master System in the works. If you're a fan of the martial arts or games such as *Street Fighter* it checks this out. *Dragon* features Bruce Lee and 12 other opponents in a series of over-the-top battles. Play as Lee or get a friend to help out as Bruce Lee's other ego.

Your character has an impressive range of 36 fighting moves — plus secret ones to discover. Loads of animation and sound effects have been squeezed into a 4-Meg cart so watch out — everybody will be hung to fighting later this year.



Jason Scott Lee (no relation) stars as martial arts expert Bruce Lee in the new film, *Dragon*.

THE WINNING FORMULA



Get ready for life in the fast lane with Donark's latest release, *Formula One World Championship*. Donark promises it will be the fastest driving game ever to hit the Master System, and from what we've seen so far, they could well be right.

Even though *F1 World Championship* is only a 2-Meg cart, it's packed with great features. Hills and tunnels add realism and variety and a split-screen option allows you to race against a friend.

You can race on the grueling tracks provided or create your own and play the *Customized Championship*. Start, easy-to-remember passwords are given so you can easily off and return to a busy season later, no trouble.

Formula One World Championship is not soon and promises to be a corker. Look out for an **EXCLUSIVE** preview in the new edition of **SCA MASTER FORCE**.



TOT TIME
OVERTAKEN
SCORIE
LAP



The screenshot on the right is in fact from the Mega Drive version of *F1*. The Master System game will also feature incredible graphics and fast-paced gameplay.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM



© Hasbro/Gaming

Expect to see a whole host of games for your Master System this winter, thanks to those invention beds at Acclaim Entertainment. Last issue we gave you **EXCLUSIVE** previews of both *BackCap II* and *Terminator 2: Judgment Day*. Both games are due out later in the year and we'll have full reviews next issue.

Continuing their line with top licensed characters, Acclaim are also set to release *Bart vs The World* and *The Addams Family*. We gave you some indication of how good *Bart* is going to be in **MEGA FORCE** issue 15. It follows the antics of The Simpsons as they travel around the globe in search of rare items for mom's employer, Mr Burns. Little do they know Burns is hoping to can get rid of Bart and his family once and for all. With the success of *Bart vs The World*

on all major formats, Acclaim are hoping to repeat the winning formula in this Simpsons outing. The *Addams Family* is based on the hit movie. Although very little has been revealed about the MS game, it's believed to be based on the Super NES release from a few months ago.

You play Gomez Addams and travel through your spooky, wacky mansion to find the lost family fortune. The game's platform based with the usual array of wacky creatures, well-timed traps and massive end-of-level guardians.

If you're after a sneak peek of these games, stay tuned to **MEGA MASTER FORCE** 'till next issue we should have exclusive previews of both *Bart vs The World* and *The Addams Family*.



© GEMINI 1991

WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE

Forgo about your worries and your aches because Virgin Games are bringing The Jungle Book to the Master System. Joining Mowgli the man-cub help to return to his village on the savanna of the jungle but has a long journey ahead of him.

The 12 exciting levels feature all the characters from the film, secret bonuses and hidden areas. Mowgli picks up weapons and climbs on vines, leaping mad monkeys by lay by throwing bananas. The many pick-ups include a special boomerang, bananas and a blowpipe, with more for ammunition.

He climbs up the Great Tree before finishing a ride on an elephant on the Dawn Patrol. By the river, Mowgli encounters alligators, falling rocks, giant fish and piranhas, using lures to stepping stones and a floating Babes the bear is an escape ride! Learn the cheery man-cub meets King Louie, orangutans, vultures, rattle bats, wild boars and a mad witch doctor.

The can promise to be packed with imaginative and amusing animation — stay on before considering just *Wings* compares such as *Global Gladiators* and *The Terminator*. The jungle Book game will be out in time for Christmas so you've plenty of time to save your pennies. As always, we'll preview it as soon as we get our mitts on a pre-production copy.



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Top Ten platform games reviewed and rated!



There's a whole planet to clean up in *Global Gladiators* from Virgin Games! Guide Chuck and sack through the garbage-filled sections.

PLATFORM SC

The train now standing at platform two is the 15.30 to Gaming Heaven, calling at Rainbow Islands, the Green Hill Zone, New Zealand, Mexico and the Land of Illusion. Your guides on this tour of the Master System's best platform games are Timothy Hirschmann and Warren Lapwerth. All aboard!

CHUCK ROCK Virgin

Chuck Rock is a cartoon with all the usual graces of a dung beetle. Hammer, there's someone who can tame the forces of this orange beast, the beautiful, bony Ophele. So when he meets Gary Grinner, drags her off into the jungle, Chuck goes mad.



His levels packed with more dinosaurs than a Spitting image stand between Chuck and his beloved. Luckily, the Neanderthal God has a valuable bear help (even when he drinks). — Hirschmann 1000000. "Telling a beast, he releases a mighty yellow to break out alone (not a pretty sight)." Chuck Rock can also... — chuck, oh, rocks. There's not only much more than that, but also all

is trapping them, or Chuck can reach high platforms and cross wide pools.

The dinosaurs aren't too fast, either. A paracord can save you in safety, for example, and dropping a rock on a sneaky enemy Chuck into the air.



Help Chuck Rock find the girl Gary Grinner. He's the prehistoric dude who's kidnapped Chuck's girlfriend.

It's not much to look at, mainly because backgrounds are plain black. However, foreground graphics use a handful of colours to great effect and Chuck's a super sprite. The theme music's good but there are only a few on-screen effects.

The controls are sticky at first, but give Chuck Rock a chance and the gameplay shines through. It's not so fast as *Beat* but the need for thoughtful positioning of rocks makes it elegantly intriguing.

Chuck Rock's pleasure rather than great to look at and sounds are more than the combination of platform-hopping, boulder-busting and rock placement is brilliant.

Rating: 91%

GLOBAL GLADIATORS Virgin

Sitting in McDonald's one day, American slacker Mack and Rick, dream of being their heroes, the good-looking Global Gladiators. Ronald McDonald's popped up, would the magic work for something... and they were!

As the well-regarded Golden Gladiators, Mack and Rick use goop guns to kill dinosaurs, monsters, fire dragons and lot treasures from four levels of three sections (though how you can help Mother Earth is a mystery).



McDonald's "M" symbols must be collected before the chosen Gladiator can exit the section (but not every M for a bonus stage. Three types of rubbish — paper, bottles and cans — are sorted into bins at the floor ground level.

When *Global Gladiators* was released on Mega Drive, we loved the graphics, sound and gameplay, but there was little challenge. The people at Virgin put their heads together and came up with the revised, super-challenging MS version!

Usually, it's brilliant. All the sprites are well animated and backgrounds are highly colourful. Although gameplay's MS Today at best (the lack of continuous doesn't help), it's very entertaining and addictive.

If you like challenging games, you'll be a fool to miss *Global Gladiators*, but if you like the easy life, steer clear.

Rating: 88%



The *Global Gladiators* use goop guns to zap the bad guys. Bonus points are gained by collecting "M" icons.

JAMES BOND: THE DUEL

Demark

Demark's 880 adventure leaves you dulled but not dazed. You take the role of the world's most famous secret agent, James Bond, and battle through fast gun- and obstacle games.

A dastardly plan's been hatched by one of Bond's most feared foes, Professor Grogan (what do you mean, "never heard of him?"). On an artificial island somewhere in the South Pacific, Grogan's preparing to launch an aerial assault into space. When in position, he'll be able to destroy any target.

First in a full tank, shoot armed guards and collect the items they drop. Make up and down ladders as you search for

DOULS



© Walt Disney



Items and

superly thinking position

— the miniature-sized Mickey is an extremely compact and bony sprite. You won't think it is a hurry but unlimited continues cut down the difficulty level.

We're not taking the Mickey. Land Of Illusion's great, stunning visuals, snappy sound, high playability and nice presentation... all the ingredients for a thoroughly entertaining game!

Rating: 92%

LAND OF ILLUSION

Sega

Another brilliant Disney game, this time starring the world's most famous mouse, Mickey (just — Jerry).

He's also a sleepy character while reading his favorite book, he falls asleep and finds himself in a whole new world. In contrast to the fairy tales he'll been reading, this land is dark and menacing.

When Mickey sees a local girl snatched by a monster, he leaps to the rescue. The girl calls him a magical crystal once he gets the land safe and beautiful, but since a phantom stole it, her village had gone to wreck and ruin.

Spacely-stein (and spacely-rocks) Mickey volunteers to explore 14 fantasy-filled levels, finding keys and gems to open doors to following sections.

Mickey's armed with deadly weapons — his own shoelace! But when he's not boot-bouncing enemies, he's crushing them under rocks. Other items are found and magic objects are awarded by various characters.

This is one of the best MD games of any description. The graphics are colorful, clear and polished with detail. The sound is quite delightful: voices change from place to place and effects are good.

The levels are so amusing and imaginative as the graphics. Although some are really complex, the water level's ruffled noise and others require objects such as the cloud-walking



One of the best all platform games is Land of Illusion starring Mickey Mouse. Colorful graphics and responsive controls make this 4 they call a joy to play.

LUCKY DIME CAPER

Sega

It's the same basic plot as many of the games we've featured, a friend or loved one of the hero has been kidnapped by some fiend as a vicious monster's laundrette.

This time the hero's that most name of Disney characters, Donald Duck, and the dastardly parties are Uncle Scrooge's kids, Huey, Louie and Dewey. A sticky business, Mags, has taken the mischievous ducklings in the hope of getting their lucky dime.

Donald starts in an American forest, looking uplinks and bears with his mother, but later levels open him to and Mexico, Mexico, Egypt and Italy. America. Donald can upgrade to a hidden and gains temporary invulnerability when five stars are collected.

Master Systems Lucky Dime Caper is noticeably harder than its Game Gear counterpart, but the game's early in the game is tricky: his them and they saving afterwards, apparently dead, then they rising back for more.

Donald can only survive two hits and there's no way to regain lost energy, so losing a life is often inevitable. Infinite continues are a boon, but getting to the end of a level so they're any use is a different matter!

The graphics vary. Some levels are bright and busy, others are pretty dull, but Donald takes them all, waddling along, his hat ribbon flapping in the breeze. He loses his temper if you ignore the controls, lighty authentic. The voices are snappy and the effects are quite impressive.

Although The Lucky Dime Caper's tough for a Disney game, it's a lot of fun and many players welcome a challenge. Great graphics, sound and game design have made it a classic.

Rating: 78%



September 1993

SEGA
MASTER
SYSTEM



feature



SONIC THE HEDGEHOG

Sega

Many of you will already own this little beauty and most others will know the score, but for the uninitiated, Sonic's blue, fast and the arch-enemy of Doctor Robotnik.

Robotnik's not exactly an animal lover. He's locked mice, cats, water-spiders and birds in small metal containers, and sealed others inside death-dealing machines. As the champion of the animal-sauce genre, harmony, saving and breaking, Sonic speeds to the rescue.

Sonic's spin attacks smashes machines and frees animals as

he runs around multi-level stages, leaping off springboards and weaving around loops. But his most famous feat is not losing rings — the more the merrier. He drops some when he's hit but that's better than losing a life!

The spiky little mammal's first adventure is a cakewalk. This is Sega's baby and other manufacturers would give their right arms for the rights to it — it's not hard to see why.

The visuals are stunning, almost on par with the Mega Drive original. Sprites are solid — sharply designed and detailed — and equally colorful backgrounds scroll smoothly and swiftly. The sound's packed with light-hearted ditties and catchy tunes.

Playing Sonic's as easy as falling off a log but making significant progress is another matter. It's instantly playable and soon becomes addictive. The level layouts are different to the MD but it's just as good a game.

The only thing stopping this from getting full marks is the fact it's a little too easy. Having said that, even the Hedgehog's on playable it'll always ensure you, however many times you complete it. Go get Robotnik!

Rating: 92%

NINJA GAIDEN

Sega

Ryu Hayabusa is the latest in a long line of Dragon Ninja. Unfortunately, his martial arts skills often take him away from his village, and the last time he returned home to see his family and friends, they were all, or rather corpse-like.

A lone survivor told him a band of villains invaded the village and murdered its inhabitants. Worse, they stole the *Book of the Gods*, an ancient scroll which can give its owner the power to control the world (what, *reincarnated*). Ryu vows to take back the scroll and deliver vengeance (sounds like a mix-up at the sorting office).

Ryu's death-dealing begins in a forest, where he scales trees, sword-splashed pits and dodges bad ninjas' throwing stars. Debating an end-of-level boss, later stages take place against the Tokyo skyline, in a cave, across a frozen landscape and at a temple.

Lenaxa Robotnik smashes enemies and gives weapons, but it's the controls and your use of them which make this game. Ryu moves like a well-oiled machine and responds quickly. Small but detailed sprites are urgent through moody background by convincingly realistic sounds.

Some obstacles look impossible to overcome but the right

combination of jumps and flips wins the day. The controls work a treat.

Varied levels and tough villains add up to a major challenge you won't give up on. Ninja Gaiden's enough to satisfy even those who've tried all the platform games.

Rating: 90%



The only hope for the free world lies with Ninja Gaiden. Use your ninja sword and throwing stars to hit bad guys.

NEW ZEALAND STORY

TecMagik

A mephibos origin in New Zealand native, Tiki the Kiwi, joins his friends in Wally the Whiro, Wharo, his beloved Bull-Bullie, PB, in saving the imprisoned tribes. What's Tiki to do but grab bow and arrow and hunt rabbit?

Teddy bears, shagbills and moosey blocks the Kiwi's path but his bow makes short work of them. Tiki moves by balloon, laser platform, moford and duck when not hopping and fluttering, and collects power-up weapons and fruit.

You may have played the New Zealand Story spin-up a few years ago. If you liked it, you should love this, because it's a spin-off conversation. Sprites are detailed and move with backgrounds are perhaps too colourful. This cheapie game sure will soon have you whistling!

Tiki's easy to control. Bizarre for its secondary means of transport, which add to the enjoyment. There are plenty of



For the Kiwi is out to stop an evil gang of thugs from turning Taupo into a crime-filled city. Can you stop them?



items to gather and secret sections to find.

If you think some graphics equal easy gameplay, you've got another thing coming. The New Zealand Slap's tough — the first level's simple but the others give you a run for your money.

This is a great arcade conversion. Graphics are stunning, the sound is terrific and gameplay's addictive and very challenging. Definitely one for the collection.

Rating: 82%



RAINBOW ISLANDS

Sega

When Bob and his equally cute daughter, Bibi, escaped from Baron Van Bludda's prison and broke his spell, they thought their troubles were over. Using cash collected from Bludda's dungeons, they bought the beautiful Rainbow Islands as a home for friends and a haven for raising.

But Van Bludda's back and his nasty henchmen are crawling over the islands, armed with remarkably cold but temporary rainbows. Bob hops up removal levels, using the beams as bridges and somewhat unusual weapons.

The sequel to Bubble Bobble is crazy and cute. The



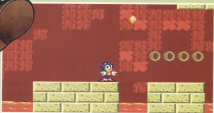
A favorite on home computers, Rainbow Islands proves to be a challenging platform romp in the ed. Bubble Bob can fix spend to save his home land.

graphics are so colorful. The thought he was having a flashback to the times — and he wasn't even born in the States! The sprites are amazingly cute and buildings are bright and effervescent.

The music is as sweet as success and awesomely catchy. The gameplay's even more addictive — it had me enthralled for hours.

Rainbow Islands is even more fun than its predecessor, a solid and wonderful platform with graphics so colorful they range on the psychotic. If this isn't in your collection, buy it now.

Rating: 91%



Sonic 2 is the sequel to the most popular console game of all time. The spiky one faces a tougher challenge and more levels of craziness than one whapping it may cartridge. It's the best until Sonic 3 gets here!

SONIC 2

Sega



In Sonic 2, our spiky pal has to save Tails the fox from the clutches of the evil Dr. Robotnik.

Sonic the Hedgehog returns — and this time he's got a pal by his side. But the no-good Doc Robotnik has kidnapped the two-tailed Miles Prower (aka Tails) in the blue blur as the sequel!

Now, it's emphasis is more on ring collection and exploration than busy-busting. The controls are identical to the original's but Sonic can bounce across water. Not inside bubbles, long glides and rounds along in a nice cut.

All seven Chaos Emeralds have to be found to gain access to the final level, South Island, where Robotnik's lair lies. But before baby can be reached, anti-facial gardens such as a wall, pin creature (similar to the barbs from Baron Of The Bell) and robot Sonic must take the shot.

The two couple of levels are bland and strangely colored but the graphics, which follow are great. Sonic's as detailed and smoothly animated as ever, scrolling's slick and (most) backgrounds are attractive. The Aqua Lake Zone's cool — plenty of misty action, quality music and a serene colour scheme.

A mass of secret rooms and paths, ring-gliding and mine mining give levels a completely different feel to those of Sonic. The Hedgehog — unless those MD owners and their open-the-difference factor.

Although not quite as good as its predecessor graphically, Sonic 2's superior gameplay gives it the lead.

Rating: 92%

That's the state of play with the top platform games on the MS so far. Stay tuned to SEGA MASTER FORCE for the full lowdown on future 8 bit releases!

The Master System has had a real deal when it comes to beat-'em-ups. *Streets of Rage* the only champ. That's about to change as Acclaim put the finishing touches to the hottest, bloodiest mash 'n' bash blast around.

What yet another fighting game for the arcade last year, few people could sit up and say, "Well, Street Fighter II already is a master file, and there are too few for another one-on-one combat machine! A year later, every one's screaming "Yea!" This game was Midway's *Mortal Kombat*.

Featuring stunning digitized graphics of real actors, *Mortal Kombat* offers players a universe of exotic world warriors. Each character's a master of a certain style of fighting and has their own specific moves.

The game takes place in the legendary Shaolin martial arts tournament where combatants battle each other until only one is left standing. The tournament has been held for hundreds of years and was so honorable even until the old

MORTAL



Based on the NO.1 arcade hit, *Mortal Kombat* features incredibly digitized fighting action. Choose from six warriors and battle your way to become tournament champion. Fight!

Shang Tsung (into the scene).

This means versus debating the champion of the day, about one of the judges and back over the competition. To score in points, Tsung brought a full-fledged stadium.

Going to our world from another dimension. Here, 500 years later, Kombat's still the reigning champion.

game and a new concept, it about to begin.

Oh no, no Kano!

Proton Software have developed the Master System version for Amstrad and it's due for release in September 1991. *Mortal Kombat*, the same time as every other fight.

So what will the first version of *Mortal Kombat* be like? Well it has all the arcade moves, and the digitized graphics up to scratch and from the latest "death movie" been included.

In the PS game, there are six players to choose from — the programmers have dropped mandatory Kano to leave the choice of Super Bolo, Johnny Cage, Liu Kang, Scorpion, Reptile and Sub-Zero. These characters have various special moves, such as punches, kicks and throws, plus special moves achieved using a combination of buttons.

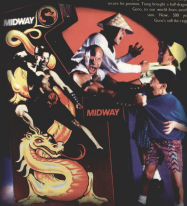
Each round lasts up to 99 seconds, a timer ticking away at the top of the screen. The winner is the fighter left standing or with the most energy when the timer has zero. The first fighter to win two rounds is the victor and has the opportunity to execute a gory death move.

Face to face

In two-player mode, both combatants can choose any of the characters if they opt for the same fighter. The second player's spirit is double.



Players have a variety of standard attacks open to them as well as special moves. Blocking is also possible.



KOMBAT



Unlike the arcade game, *Mortal Kombat* on the SN only features six fighters. Four old fans' gone walkabout.

One player made two three difficulty settings: Easy, Medium and Hard. Choose your fighter and a battle plan appears, showing the order you tackle opponents, face the might of five competitors and a mirror-match against yourself.

Would you believe the winner got a new form of brutality and suffering logic: the endurance match. Your enemy has taken a real beating as you face two opponents, one after the other. In the *Mortal Kombat* arcade game, the winners attacked together — odd comfort when you know there are three endurance matches.

If you manage to survive all this, there are two boss characters to challenge. Goro is the four-armed bull-dragon warrior and reigning *Mortal Kombat* champion. He isn't the star attraction, so his graphics were dropped from a sophisticated model. Goro's attacks are devastating and lightning fast — he can pound you into a bloody pulp within seconds.

Going for a Toss

The final and greatest challenge lies in the evil Great Master, Shang Tsung. This ancient wizard not only has the ability to float around at high speed and throw fatal fireballs, but he's also a shape-shifter. Tsung can change into any one of the other fighters in an instant, including mighty Goro, and use all their special attacks and abilities.

Apart from the fact of Kameo, the only difficulty arising from the Master System version are bonus rounds. These stages were simple tests of strength which required players to smash wood, steel and other materials to shatter off their muscles. Due to the memory constraints of a 4 Meg card, Probe chose to drop them, a wise decision as they added little to the original.

We've been playing *Mortal Kombat* for weeks now and, without a shadow of a doubt, it's one of the best 16-bit games available. Make sure you check out our full review next issue as we give the lowdown on *Realtime's* conversion of the hottest beat-'em-up around!



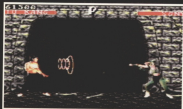
Get over here! Scorpion gives Raiden a taste of his deadly spear and sword. Special moves are performed by pressing certain combinations of buttons. Find the correct sequence and watch the feared My. mortal Kombat is definitely not a game for the timid warrior.



Acclaim have included nearly all the features available in the original coin-up, such as the Death Reel!



Glitzy finishing moves, such as Sub-Zero removing your spinal column, are all in the Sega 16-bit version.



In the depths of Goro's lair, Sonya Blade and Liu Kang battle it out for the champion's title. Liu Kang has three options: Duck to avoid the blow, Block, but lose energy or stand there and take it.



Invincible Raiden gets the cold shoulder from Sub-Zero. Once frozen, a fighter has no way of defending themselves and must suffer being hit.

BATTLE PLAN

Becoming Mortal Kombat champion isn't easy! First of all face five of the toughest fighters in the world plus a mirror image of yourself. Then there are three endurance matches to survive before tackling the last two bosses, Goro and Shang Tsung.



LIU KANG

Age: 24
Height: 5' 10"
Weight: 160lb
Eyes: Brown

Legal Status: Citizen of the People's Republic of China
Birthplace: Hanchuan, China
Occupation: Fighter, former member of the Lotus Society. Left to represent the Shaolin in the tournament.



Liu Kang uses Heatwave and Flying Kicks.



JOHNNY CAGE

Age: 29
Height: 6' 7"

Weight: 200lb
Eyes: Blue
Legal Status: US citizen
Birthplace: California
Occupation: Hollywood actor who uses his martial arts skills on the screen.



Madison Eye: But when enemies walk toward you, Johnny Cage slides across the screen.



Green Fireball: Let fly with a lethal ball of energy-killing fire. Keeps enemies at bay.



SUB-ZERO

Age: 11
Height: 4' 2"
Weight: 110lb
Eyes: Brown

Legal Status: None, but lives in China
Birthplace: Unknown
Occupation: Member of the Lin Kuei, a rare clan of Chinese Assassins.



Slide Kick: Useful for sliding under fireball or weapon attacks and tripping enemies.



Ice Blast: Freezes your opponents, but if used twice, causes an ice battle.





SELECTION

SONY
BLADE

NOTES



REIGNING CHAMPION



CODE 0

Open End
Legal Status:
Prince of the Eastern
Caucasus
Birthplace: Kars, north-
west of
Shakhs
Occupation: Ruler
supreme of Shakhs's
armies, current reign
in northern Caucasus



That's your lot for this month, folks. Next month we'll not only be bringing you a complete *Mortal Kombat* review but there'll also be the indispensable **SEGA MASTER FORCE** fighter's guide. Prepare for *Kombat*!

SEGA master blaster

Superheroes are in fashion again. Last issue Batman returned, now we have another DC Comics lycra lot, *The Flash*. Should you rush off to buy it or stop in and clean the kitchen?

Welcome to Central City, a mid-America metropolis where almost every citizen is plagued by violence, poverty and poor policing. It's one of the most criminally-populated areas of the United States.

But there aren't the only factors which make Central City different. The police are ruled by a mysterious masked vigilante, known as *The Flash*, like a crimson bolt of lightning, the Scarlet Speedster seemingly appears from nowhere to save the city.

Unknown to Central City's population in general, and the cops in particular, *The Flash* is, in fact, police scientist Barry Allen. While working in his laboratory during a violent storm, Barry was struck by a bolt of lightning. Stumbling backwards, he fell into a cubicle of chemicals and passed out. When he came to, Barry found he'd gained the ability of super-speed.

Barry Allen walks on water

After witnessing the death of his brother at the hands of thugs, he vowed to use his new-found powers to battle crime, thus the aid of Star Labs' scientist, The McGee, he constructed a special red costume to cut down friction at high speeds. The monitors Barry as he races round the city keeping criminals at bay.

The *Flash* game features two of the Scarlet Speedster's toughest foes: *The Trickster* and *The Trickster*. The duo - as they have formed an alliance to once again Central City and destroy *The Flash*, once and for all.

Using *The Flash*'s powers, race round Central City and intercept the madmen before they complete their plans. *The Flash*'s speed powers enable him to dodge bullets, run on water and even up walls.

While standing still, *The Flash* can alter his body and destroy nearby enemies or blocks containing special items. These items include fuel (for energy), extra lives and continue. Power-up gauges include magnetic field protection units, which create an energy shield around *The Flash*, and absorb-vents, capable of transforming the Scarlet Speedster into a



Central City is riddled and only the Flash can save it! Guide the scarlet speedster through six tough stages and stop the mischievous Trickster.

THE FLASH

human comado.

Time of his life

Each of its levels is divided into two sub-sections. At the end of the first two levels, the *Flash* goes up against the Trickstermobile. Throwing *Flash* icons and dodging flames, he must disable the car before it crashes into him.

Time is always against *The Flash*, a clock ticks away at the bottom of the screen. Red water time items can complete the level before the clock hits zero.

Lose all lives and *The Flash* is given the opportunity to continue — but only if he's collected a continue item during the game. If he has, he starts at the beginning of the level or from a restart point, if he found one before he died.

Can you halt the rampage of *The Trickster* and *The Trickster*? Only *The Flash* has the power to do it. Get ready — it's time to start running!



Tim yelps... 'GREAT CART'



When I first heard of this game, I thought it was going to be about a dirty old man in a mask. I was much relieved to find *The Flash* is

based on the super-fast superheroes of the same name.

I was pleasantly surprised by the graphics, they really are impressive. The backgrounds are colourful and imaginative and animation's damn good — at first I thought I was playing a 16-bit game!

Gameplay's fast and furious but very simple, in places, to a certain hedgehog-based game. *The Flash* has high testability because it's a blinker! hard to crash. I have to admit, it took me some time to get past the first level. The controls are generally simple but some manoeuvres get more complex as the game goes on.

To sum up, *The Flash* is a great cartridge, the visuals are brilliant and the gameplay's very challenging yet still addictive. However, originality is not one of its strong points.

TIM WRIGHT



Collect bonus items from the *Flash* icons. Pick up extra energy, items, fuel and continue for later levels.



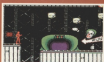
Sometimes the way to reach items is hidden so run around to find secret entrances.



Leap into the jaws of doom and the Flash loses energy. Long jumps are accomplished by running, keeping then springing in the air.



The Thicker's Airhouse slugs is packed with wacky gags to slow the flash-down. Watch out for glue patches, killer clowns, robotic planes and other nasties.



The Thicker has taken a deserted warehouse and converted it into a lethal death trap. The floating wire on the right, explode on contact causing loads of damage.

FLASH



At the end of each level, the Flash battles the villainous Thickermobile. This strange vehicle is armed with rear firing cannons and a missile launcher to wipe out meddling super-heroes!



S.T.A.R. Labs are in constant touch with the Flash and supply him with vital information on the Thicker.



Bottle-throwing bad guys and punks are out to make sure the Flash runs his race.



© Warner Bros. Video 1993

September 1993

SEGA MASTER 32
POWER

review



The longer you hold down the jump button, the higher the Flash jumps. Flurring jumps get you more height.



The robot enemies on this level are impossible to destroy. Leap over them or suffer the consequences!

Mat 200me... 'HIGH-SPEED ACTION'



The crimson comet whizzes onto the Master System, leaving a lightning trail behind him! Although *The Flash* is based on the hit TV series and not the comic-books, it still has a wonderful four-colour appeal to it. It's not up to *Batman* or *The Amazing Spider-Man*, but *The Flash* has enough high-speed action for anyone.

You may not have heard about *The Flash*, but after *Superman* and *Batman*, he's DC Comics' top hero. The recent *Millions* series introduced the bloke in the red coat to more people and Sega have seen fit to produce an MSX game based on his heroic exploits.

The basic idea's nothing new: race around various levels, defeat a handful of bad guys and find the exit. However, *The Flash*

offers a challenge for platform heads as there's only one difficulty setting — and that's difficult!

Don't expect to finish this in a few hours. There are loads of puzzles to solve, death-traps to avoid and bad guys in faster before you move onto the next level.

The main sprites are well-defined. *The Flash* instantly recognisable in red and yellow pyjamas. Sticking closely to the TV series, backgrounds have a weird mix of Forties and Nineties' architecture.

Sounds-wise, *The Flash* doesn't suffer too badly from the MS's poor sound chip, atmospheric tunes added for effect and sound FX cartoony.

Not exactly *Batman* but definitely worth checking out for super-speed action!

MAT 91%

Find 'em fast



FLASH 100%: These are where all the useful extra items are located. Use a blast of super-speed to smash them open.



FLASH 100%: There are loads of these systems dotted around every stage. Collect one hundred to gain a useful extra life.



TIMER: Start each stage with fifty seconds on the clock. Pick up this icon to add an extra fifty seconds to your time.



SWITCH: Some levels have bridges to be activated. Find these switches and run past them to turn 'em on. They'll be turned off if you die.



Face even tougher challenges as you get nearer to the Trickster's hideout. Watch out for flying drones.



There's no fun to be had in the Trickster's madcap mansion. You'll have your hands full just staying alive.



The Trickster's using strange biological experiments, such as altered plants, to keep the Flash away from him. There's no stopping these monstrosities so simply speed past.





From the DC Comic books to Sky TV, the Flash fights crime with the fastest feet in the world!



The more times the Flash collects on his travels, the more points he scores at the end of each stage.



To combat the intransigent, the Flash throws red energy pellets at the car destroying its guns.

TV TORNADO

Like so many comic-book characters, the Flash has made the leap from print to film. If you're lucky enough to have a cable dish hooked up to the side of your house, you may have caught the Flash TV series on Sky One earlier this year.

Originally shown in America on CBS TV in 1990, the series starred John Wesley Shipp as the man in red and proved popular enough to make it over the pond to the UK. Even though the show only lasted for three series, there's talk of special episodes and maybe even a feature film.

At an estimated budget of over \$1.5 million per episode, the Flash was rumored to be the most expensive weekly series in TV history. Unlike campy shows such as *Baywatch*, the Flash features none of the special effects usually reserved for major motion pictures.

Executive producers on the show, Danny Bilson and Paul Goldstein (who also wrote the hit *Baywatch* film, *The Backyard*), are devoted comic fans and stuck closely to the original Flash adventures. Popular comic-book releases including *The Tickler* (played by Mark Hamill — like from *Star Wars*), *Capitan Cold* and *Rebel Torgue* made an appearance, as did new enemies such as *The Ghoul*, *The Trickman* and *Ally*.

Expect to see The Flash race back onto Sky One later in the year and check out our exclusive competition to win some exclusive Flash items just over the page!

THE FASTEST MEN ALIVE!



The Flash has been running for over 50 years now but the man behind the red speedster remains he's the same one who sped into the comic books all those years ago.

By 1959, the original Flash, first appeared in *Flash Comics*. It is 1948 and went on to become one of the most popular DC comic-book characters of the time. By gaining his powers when he accidently inhales fumes from experimental 'hard water'. He awakes to find his feet had given him the ability to move at superhuman speed. Wearing a unique costume, The Flash battled crime and saved others for almost years until his tale was cancelled in 1961.

The Flash's fans persuaded DC Comics to bring the speedy speedster back from limbo, however, and in 1984 the new Flash sped onto the screens. This time he was justice warrior Barry Allen, who received his powers after being struck by a bolt of lightning while handling dangerous chemicals.

Donning a non-familiar red costume, he sped into the world in *Issue #4*. With an impressive *'Rogues'* Gallery, superb artwork (from veteran artist Carmine Infantino) and unique storylines, the Flash was a success and ran for 99 issues.

DC revamped The Flash in the late Eighties. Barry Allen was a hero's death in the infamous *Crisis On Infinite Earths* series but DC warmly welcomed with the heroes man alive. Taking his friend, Wally West (aka Kid Flash), writer Mike Baron and artist Jackson Gabe introduced the race of the world to the newest Flash in 1987.

Since then, he's been made a millionaire, broken to a pulp, shot dead, joined the Justice League Europe, gained a shiny costume and saved the world on countless occasions. If just success of the super-speedster is anything to go by, The Flash looks set to run well into the next century!

©DC Comics Inc.



Although the Flash is known for his speed, cars have to be taken on some levels. Bottomless pits loom...



In real life, the Flash is in fact Flash's scientist Barry Allen who's always late!

THE FLASH

84	Graphics
59	Sound
74	Playability
89	Longevity

A fast-paced platform game with a high challenge setting. Fun for a few weeks.

SEGA
£29.99

Out NOW
071 373 3000

90



GIVE US A FLASH!



FLASH
SPECIAL

1
FREE
WITH
THIS
ISSUE



Win a Flash video and a year's supply of Flash comics in our ultra-exclusive **SEGA MASTER FORCE** competition!

Sega are due to release The Flash on the Master System in the near future. While this is a massive hit to us, it is with the launch of this red hot cartridge, which based upon only one television episode, Warner Home Video is giving you another SEGA/DC comic book special. Warner Home Video's Flash game is one of the most recent of the double feature Flash 2 of 3, which has recently been released for sale in the shops. It's a game giving you the chance to win one of these prize-packed, super exciting prizes. A year's supply of the Flash comic. That's right, one of the best writers will also receive 12 regular issues, courtesy of *Warner Bros. Comics* in *London* (WDC 40039).

All you have to do is answer the following questions.

What is the secret identity of the TV Flash?

- a. Barry Allen
- b. Bruce Wayne
- c. Barry Allen

Answers may include: "quiet down" or both of lightning to What's the Flash got, SEGA MASTER FORCE, Impact Magazine, London, September 1993. Please note, they will have August 1994.

The first SEGA/DC comic book special of the Flash's body-sucking will get a video and the next 12 issues of The Flash comic, a further one winner will each receive a video. Let us know if you do not wish to receive challenge from other competitors.



compe

SEGA
MASTER
FORCE

September 1993

CALIFORNIA GAMES 2

The Games series has graced/haunted (delete as applicable) home computers for around eight years; now the Master System gets a second bite at the California cherry. Will SEGA MASTER FORCE be snow-bowled over or bodybored?

If you fancy a cheap holiday in California and have a taste for simulated antics, the stylish sports-on-order here could well be of interest. Yes, you could pull off stunts that would make the average Joe pee in his pants, or pack your skates and surfboard before jet-propulsion to complete in the California Games.

There are a mere four events to practise and compete in: half-pipe skateboarding, bodyboarding, hang-gliding and snow-bowling.

If you're ready for some 'wheely good' action (in the last), hop onto a skateboard and hit the half-pipe. If you mastered the event in the original California Games, don't feel skated rather than noting them able to take in an ordinary half-pipe, you skate along a winding concrete gutter. You can perform hand plants, ollies, barflippers and, if you gather enough speed, complete revolutions around the tunnel sections.

Snow jobs

If you're a beach bum, you might like to hit the water — and first-classly warm in your bodyboard. Once you've pulled into a big wave, you can perform great aquatic moves including barrels, rolls, flip the top and spins.

Tim waits... 'VERY LITTLE WILL APPEAR HERE'



What a poor excuse for a Master System game! The thing is, I found myself playing again and again because watching the puny graphics, especially the hang-glider plummeting into the edge of the cliff, is an awe brought in shouldn't be — but it is!

I'm quite shocked to discover the programmer behind California Games 2 is Pallas. They've produced some corking titles in the past (ie, Alien 3) and are bringing Monsté Rombat to the Master System. They must have rushed California Games through, hoping no one would notice.

For a sports game, there's no sense of speed or competition. The skateboarding is slow and

To glide like a seagull or swoop like a hawk, strap yourself under hangglider and throw yourself off a large cliff. Catch the thermals to stay aloft and swoop to collect coins floating in the sea.

Finally, there's the snow bowl. You first guide a helicopter to drop your snowboarder near a mountain peak then work your way to the bottom, avoiding trees, boulders and big geyser streams (that's enough of that —Ed). You eventually reach the snow bowl, where half-pipe moves are performed.

This is a one-player, 8192-colour crammed with action, if you fancy life in the too fast, just cruise the high-ways to California.



Like that wave, perchance! As in real life, bodyboarding takes you to the edge...then over it.



Snowboard down the side of an impossibly steep mountain to reach the beach and big bonus points.

hang-gliding takes ages to get used to. For the bodyboarding, I just pressed down and [I] to score loads of points and the snow bowl's an absolute joke. I appeared to jump over some objects yet still flew too-over-where!

Presentation's pretty poor, with only an options screen and a pic of a teardrop strapping his knee every time you fall an event. Sound is incredibly weak, with a half-hearted tinkly tune at the start of the game, a few swooshing noises to indicate waves and boomed against terra firma in the snow bowl.

There's very little to appeal here. I wouldn't even recommend California Games 2 to sports fans, that's how bad it is.

TIME 22%



See, you can see a rather serious figure up here!

mf Rating
California Games 2

16	Graphics
19	Sound
29	Playability
30	Lastability

Poor multi-sport cast. Lousy graphics, poor sound, game playability and only four events.

SEGA
£29.99

32

Out Now
071 373 3000



Larry Green, all your GPB out, GP Rider takes you round the roughest, nastiest, blakie in the world.

GP RIDER

You know the saying, two wheels are better than four. It's an old proverb Sega are hoping to prove with this release, which gets a head start by virtue of an impressive split-screen two-player option.

As fast you can experience the thrills and the spills of Grand Prix motorcycle racing — without leaving the comfort of your favourite armchair, you too can dog.

GP Rider's one or two-player split-screen from the usual racing game perspective of behind and slightly above the player. A split-screen gives the luxury of independent displays when racing against a friend.

Since you'll be spending around twelve from all over the world in all sorts of weather conditions, it's advisable to modify your motorcycle to suit each race. You always have the choice of manual or automatic gear boxes (high or low), while

the Grand Prix option also offers a 100, medium or heavy engine and wet or dry tires.

Crawl over the world

There are three playing modes in all: Arcade, Tournament and Grand Prix. Arcade is the simplest pick-up-and-play game. Select a track and, six laps later, back to play or watch it debut.

Tournament mode takes more time and effort. You enter a championship and tackle up to 11 courses in countries such as Austria, Holland, Japan and Italy. Points are awarded for the top riders in each race and accumulated wins determine final placings.

When you and your bike are in perfect harmony, go for the full Grand Prix. It's similar to Tournament but all 11 weeks must be tackled. This massive challenge is eased by the subtle choice of engine, gear and tires. The options enable you to customize your bike so you're riding a real mean machine.

There's plenty here for hot motorcycle racing fans, so strap on your helmet, pull on your boots and get on a bike.



In both one and two-player modes, GP Rider has some stunning graphical effects. Obstacles flash past a high speed and so do other bikes.



Take part in the qualifying round to secure your placing in the main race. Start too far back and you're in trouble.

Tim means... 'GAMEPLAYS SERIOUSLY LACKING'



Motorcycle racing games are rare on the Master System. If they're all as bad as this one, I can see why!

The graphics are pretty basic. Your rider's chosen suit and crashes are rather feeble — I want buckled metal, bits dropping off, explosions! The sound's pathetic, too.

There's no background music, just the roar of the engine as your bike goes around in circles. I say 'roar' but it's more of a hum — your high-powered mean machine sounds like a lawnmower.

Now for the gameplay, and as you may have already guessed, I was not impressed. The tracks aren't thrilling, just tedious. If I wanted to ride aimlessly round and round, I'd sit on the turntable of my stereo.

Overall, GP Rider's quite a poor effort. I'm afraid. The graphics are basic, the sound's abominable and gameplay's seriously lacking. If you want to play a decent bike game, you're better off playing the relevant sections of *Fast Run* or *Superbike*. Come on, Sega, you can turn out better games than this.

TIM 24%

Mat gripes... 'NAFF RACING'



When it comes to reviewing games in SEGA MASTER FORCE, we try and give our honest opinion at all times. If a new game is similar to another, we'll compare and contrast to the two cars.

Here we have GP Rider and what else we have to compare it with? Play all that's right, there's a serious lack of MS racing games. If it's car action you're after, a handful of games are available. However, if you're not your motor running — forget it.

GP Rider tries its best to be a high-speed, white-knuckle ride but it's about as thrilling as watching paint dry. Race along repetitive tracks, cope with unresponsive controls and try to pretend your movements are having an important effect on the races' results.

To Sega's credit, they've crammed as much into this 2 Meg car as possible. It's presented in a similar way to the Mega Drive hit, Road Flash 2, but even with a neat split-screen two-player game, GP Rider falls flat.

The graphics are nothing to shout about, the music's average and playability leaves a lot to be desired. For speedy thrills and spills, you're better off on four wheels with Super Monaco Grand Prix 2.

BUT 88%

Being round tracks at breakneck speeds calls for lightning reflexes and quick thinking. Keep an eye on road signs pointing by to see which way the track will twist and turn next. Steer too late and you're using your face as a brake!



BIKE ONE SETUP



Trigger set-up screen enables players to alter parts of their machines. Gears may be swapped for driving in either wet or dry conditions. The bike's gears are available in both automatic and manual. Select what you want and start the race.

END ONE SPEED

AUTOMATIC GEAR

MANUAL



The selector offers two types of gears allowing track player to determine their style. Automatic gears are handled by the computer and manual invites you to control them.

TRACK DATA

APPROACH

QUALIFYING
LAP TIME
LAP TIME



WEATHER



At the start of each level the computer displays screen information such as the state of the weather, the stage and the track and how long it took for



The game is set in various scenarios, but the scenery may tell you, "Woe!"

mf Rating
GP Rider

52	Graphics
12	Sound
36	Playability
32	Lastability

A half-hearted effort. If you're after a two-wheel race, try before buying.

SEGA
£29.99

Out Now
021 373 3000

48



Wait for the lights to change to green before burning rubber. Hold down button (B) to accelerate.



Keep an eye on your speed when taking corners. Use your brakes to reduce the chance of a crash.



Brush each race to the top three and you're guaranteed a place in the next race. The winner's podium awaits!

September 1993

SEGA
MASTER
FORCE

review



The gentle sport of golf has been responsible for cult games such as *Leaderboard* and *PGA Tour*. Now Sega hope to carve a notch on the number one wood with their in-depth sim.

The summer's here and that means sunny days, hot beer, ridiculous baggy shorts and more sporting activities than you can shake a big stick at! Forget tennis, though, put football to one side and steer well clear of cricket (or there's a tough game that requires real skill to play golf).

Golf for true professionals and Sega have recreated all the fun of the open green with their latest sporting offering, *World Tournament Golf*. If you've ever fantasised yourself as Jack Nicklaus or, er... one of those other famous golfing types, this could be the cart for you.

The features are mind-boggling! Select your favourite course, clubs, the type of companion you want to take part in, the number of holes to complete and much more.

Up to four players may compete at once, with companion's names entered later by letter for that personal touch. The arena's viewed from above as your golfer attempts to get the pretty ball into the hole in as few shots as possible.

Pulling a stroke

Use the joystick to move a marker which indicates the direction the ball will be in. A companion can show the strength of your stroke and how much wisp is applied (to steer the ball left or right).

Obstacles to avoid include trees, sand bunkers and water holes. Hitting them not only slows you down or means a

Sega World Tournament Golf gives you the chance to play as a professional golfing champ. Select your favourite course, club, number of holes and various other options for a realistic game on the green.



A wealth of options enables players to play exactly the type of game that they want to.

WORLD TOURNAMENT GOLF

stroke, there's a chance you'll lose the ball.

A trajectory window's used to determine the correct club. These range from four woods to five irons and from putters to sand wedges. Use the right club for the job, the right aim and amount of wisp, and the course is as good as won.

Get ready to putt as your tartan trousers, spiked shoes and smart cap tell this summer's games for a large wedge!

Tim says... 'ENTERTAINING'



I've just had my tea and now I'm going out! Nothing. I'm not painting the town red (unfortunately), I'm playing golf. Tim, Actually, Sega World

Tournament Golf isn't a bad cart, but felt a little bogged down with all the fiddly options. These may be necessary to improve performance but I was missing around for five minutes before I started playing.

Despite this niggle, *SWT Golf*'s quite entertaining — I was surprised to find myself mildly addicted because sports sims aren't usually my cup of tea. There are three skill levels but if you're an inexperienced little putter like myself, stick to novice mode.

The graphics and sound are a little disappointing. The course is just one big mass of greenery with the occasional sand pit and the hole's difficult to spot. Sound-wise there's little on offer: the music's sparse and effects are average.

World Tournament Golf's gameplay is impressive but Sega should've used more imagination when it came to graphics and sound.

TIME 60%



Select a course and you're shown such information as the number of holes, distance to pin and distance from tee.

All of the courses are seen from a bird's eye perspective. Each green has its own obstacles to battle such as trees, sand bunkers and water.



When playing a course, use the power bar at the bottom of the screen to determine how strong your swing is. Once you've set the power, press button B to activate the snap bar. The right level of snap depends on the snap used.



The scoreboard shows your current score as well as the yards covered, holes being played for and more.



Compete against other players and complete each course to receive your score on the medal board.

WORLD TOURNAMENT GOLF

Mat grins... 'ONLY THE CADDY'S MISSING!'



I'm not really into sports games and golf sits on the base of my life, but Sega World Tournament Golf's pretty neat.

For a start, there are enough options to keep a whole team of golfers occupied for a month! In some games, too many options can make things confusing, but they're essential for golf. It's a pain for beginners who just want to get to the game but once you've played a few rounds, you find the options make it a lot better to play.

As far as graphics go, World Tournament Golf's fairly average, but clever touches (such as the ball perspective it flies through the air) gloss over the fact there's not much to see.

The best point is the four-player option. Grab your mates for a thrilling competition and this golf game really takes off.

World Tournament Golf could do with improved graphics and sound but it's still one of the best sporting games available for the MS.

MAT 96%



By moving the joystick from left to right, players are able to guide the white cross around the green. This is the direction that the ball travels in. The rectangular screen at the bottom of the picture shows the view toward the cross.



It's low water but golfers don't know else of the blue stuff folks.

mfRating
World Tournament Golf

66 Graphics

48 Sound

75 Playability

81 Lastability

A realistic golfing simulation with long-lasting appeal thanks to the multiple player option

SEGA
£28.99

78

Out. 18A
= 071 373 3000

September 1993

SEGA
MASTER
POWER

review



Kevin and Harry. Not only have his parents gone and left him home alone while they travel off on their holidays, but there's a pair of South Island burglars set to get him (and a not small dog). Armed to the teeth with useful objects, Kevin never has a chance to compete. Stop the burglars before they rob all the funnies in the neighbourhood.



© 1993 MCA

HOME ALONE

Some people deserve to be home alone: John 'O'-turn 'cos I want to Major, the multi-talented Timmy Wallei, anyone who still plays Trivial Pursuit and that long-haired top, Pat Sharp. But none are as inventive as little Kevin.

Home Alone was the movie which boosted Macaulay Culkin to international stardom — a certainty for a few years for The Gang of the video of the few first to Play Dohs, then the Game Gear (as reviewed in last month's *IGNITION* supplement). Now it's today on our favourite consoles.

Kevin's parents have gone on their holidays and suddenly

he's left on his own. Little does he know that two burglars plan to rob the entire neighbourhood — and his house is first on their agenda.

In case you haven't triggered yet, you take the place of the little hero and have to stop the buggers from robbing the neighbourhood's possessions.

On each level, you collect a certain amount of valuables from houses and gardens. You only need one to complete the first few levels, but the number increases as the game continues.

Burglars, bonuses and burgers

On your way, goodies such as hamburgers and sales give bonus points. Later levels involve various household implements which are combined to make weapons. These don't inflict unpalatable damage on your enemies but stall them for a few seconds.

Be careful not to run out of time — you haven't got a

lot of it — but alone all, avoid the burglars. If you're caught, you lose one of up three lives, and there isn't any continuity. However, three will leave Dave, Howard and Wendy should please look serious and expert personalities.

If you collect all the valuables, just then it is safe and keep the burglars at bay long enough, the police arrive and wrap the villains away. But if they do this your strategy looks weak or you run out before you log all the goodies, your parents may as well not come home.



From left to right: Home Alone's hero, Kevin, Harry the brother behind the burglars and old-school hero.



With guns and great big guns, Kevin prepares to defend his family house from thieving burglars.



Guide Kevin around each house, finding a certain number of valuables as you go. Take all of the items to the safe whilst avoiding Harry and Wendy. If either of them catches you, Kevin loses a life. There are three chances left to use up.

review



IGN MASTER

September 1993



The red and white objects are in fact springs. Use them to bounce up to higher levels.



Kevin makes a dash to avoid getting nabbed by Marv. Collect the coins and other food for extra energy.

One

Mat thinks... 'WORTH BORROWING'



After playing *Home Alone* on the Mega Drive and Game Gear, I devoured Kevin's MS adventures. Fortunately, I was in for a treat. *Home Alone* may appear naïf but hold yer horses, folks, there's more to it than meets the eye.

Like his movie star alter ego, Kevin's a whiz at control at times — even simple actions such as walking up stairs are awkward to pull off — but *Home Alone* scores high in the installability stakes.

I admit it's frustrating at first but it gets tougher and more complex every time a level's

completed. With three difficulty settings and very few continues, you'll be hard-pressed to finish it.

Visually, *Home Alone* is well presented. There are loads of in-jokes to spot, such as Sonix The Hedgehog and the Sega logo in the background, and Kevin, armed with a handy BB gun (what the heck does 'BB' mean?) ball bearing—Max Eld, a instantly recognizable. The still pics from the movie are great, showing burglars Marv and Marv bearing as they nail Kevin to the wall ('Do it!' screams every sane person on the planet).

Overall, not an essential purchase but worth borrowing if you can. **MAT 80%**



Kevin has got good reason to smile. *Home Alone* is the third highest-grossing film ever, raking in a massive \$285 million worldwide.



You did it! Complete each level before the time runs out and you'll receive a massive bonus.



Some houses have many floors and only with practice will you learn the location of objects.



The purple door between Kevin may be used to hide behind if one of the burglars is running your way.



Keep an eye on your time when building a room. If it reaches zero, the bad guys get all the goodies.



Let's see how it Kevin's armed with a handy BB gun useful for teaching criminals the error of their ways. Although it's no use in the first few levels, once you feel the immersion, fast-fading those bad guys. A good tactic is to ambush them, then trap past them.



The safe's located in a different place in each house. Place the objects in the safe before the burglars get in.



Kevin's Collectibles

Amusement: Find this item as soon as you can. Kevin needs these pellets for his BB gun and shooting the burglars.

Cup Cakes: If Kevin gets hit by a dog or another roaming obstacle he loses energy. Collect food to increase your vitality.

Dogg Stamp: All of the houses are controlled by these watchdogs. Unfortunately they think you you're a trespasser!

Plugs: What kind of an idiot leaves priceless jewelry lying around? Harry and Mary have their eyes on these trinkets.

Keys: Yet another valuable object that needs to be returned to the safe. Find 'em before Harry and Mary do.



Explore each house fully to find the location of objects, the burglars and the safe.



Take out Harry and Mary with a well-aimed shot from your trusty BB gun. That's each win.

Tim advises... 'STICK WITH IT'



At first glance, *Home Alone* looks brilliant. The graphics in the interfection sequences look just like the characters from the film and the main sprite's crisp and clear as he makes his way through loads of colourful rooms in various houses. The main theme's catchiness and effects are pretty cool. Now, I'm afraid, comes the slapping off—

For the first few levels, gameplay's dreadfully basic. All you have to do is grab the valuables and bring them in the safe before time runs out, which can become incredibly boring. But if you stick with it till about the eighth level, you get the chance to pick up weapons and bash your assailants.

My other gripe concerns the controls. Although there's only jump and walk, I found it difficult to walk up stairs, and if you jump incorrectly, you drop down a floor. This is a real pain when you've so little time to complete the level.

Although some levels and pernickety controls got on my goat at first, *Home Alone* is a pretty janky rant when you get the hang of it. Not a bad effort.

TIM ALLEN



It's that damn dog again! Keep your distance from any fluffy intruders.

MF Rating
Home Alone

90

Graphics

90

Sound

61

Playability

69

Longevity

"To share the gameplay's poor—the graphics are brilliant and the sound's nothing to be scoffed at

61

SEGA
£29.99

Out Now
☎ 071 573 3000

A close-up photograph of a man dressed as James Bond, wearing a grey suit, white shirt, and striped tie. He is holding a black handgun in his right hand and looking directly at the camera with a serious expression.

G

FORCE

September 1993

WIN!

Over £100
worth of sports
carts from
US Gold!

Licenced to thrill!

James Bond makes his debut on the
small screen

PLUS!
Sonic Chaos
Desert Strike
Tengen Soccer



competition

Sports Gear



Photo: Peter Fawcett



WIN OVER £100 WORTH OF SPORTING GAME GEAR CARDS FROM **U.S. GOLD**

Is your Game Gear looking tired and unloved? Kick it into shape with this fabulous selection of four US Gold sports cards, all Top Ten best material. First off the starting blocks is *Olympic Gold*, the official video game for the 1992 Summer Olympics. Complete in seven thrilling events: 100m sprint, hammer-throwing, archery, 1500m hurdles, pole vault, springboard diving, and freestyle swimming. There's a joystick option and three levels of competition. With great graphics and a real competitive feel, *Olympic Gold* is the best headbanger game around.

Super Kick Off is an absolute classic. Combining all the merrits and features of a real football match, you can play in a single cup or league game and even rise to the dizzy heights of international level. It's a play giving array of options allow you to change the pitch, referee, players and kit. If you're football mad, you'll be crazy NOT to get *Super Kick Off*.

You need your wits about you to play *OutRun Europe*. As bumpy special agent

Simon Kutz, race across Europe in a fast dash attempt to recover a set of top secret documents stolen along with your Ferrari F-40. This isn't as today as you roam across England, France, Spain, Italy, Russia, and Germany on a motorbike and juggle time take control of a speedboat, Porsche and Ferrari. A nice variety in gameplay, speed and plenty of action make *OutRun Europe* a winner of a card.

Time for tea

Slightly more subtle but just as competitive is *50 World Class Leaderboard*. Play at 50 locations, like the Royal Country Club, Cypress Creek or The Gaillard. Would be the Poles experience life on the world's top class courses, negotiating the rough, bunkers, trees and water.

Choose your clubs, practice your shots and keep on top on wind speed and direction. Three difficulty levels, game statistics, overhead views of each hole and sampled speech make *World Class Leaderboard* an essential GG game for any golfing buff's collection.

Springboard diving in Olympic Gold. Presumably the highlight of the career events. The game's a real challenge.



Climb aboard the jetski in OutRun Europe. Dodge rocks, boats and helicopters. Action's fast and furious.



Preparing your shot in 50 World Class Leaderboard. Keep away from the water and trees. The hole's in sight.



All you have to do to win the cards is answer the following:

1. In which city would you find US Gold?
a. London
b. Birmingham
c. Glasgow
2. Which city hosted the last Olympic Games?
a. Moscow
b. Los Angeles
c. Barcelona
3. Scotland is home to which of these golf courses?
a. The Belfry
b. St Andrews
c. Pebble Beach

Put the answers down on a postcard or on the back of a sealed-clear envelope, along with your name and address. The first entry out of the hat on 30 August receives the cards, a US Gold football and poster. There's a faulty

and poster for the runner-up. Send your entry to: US Gold Sports Comp, Import Magazines, Luton, Bedfordshire LU1 1JF.

Please note in your entry if you do not want to receive promotional material from other companies

News & Previews

In this month's **G-FORCE** we've news on forthcoming UK titles, what's hot 'over the pond' in the USA — including a new GG-only Sonic game — and the latest gizmos for your machine. Plus previews of *James Bond* and *Desert Strike* and a review of *World Cup Soccer*.



Surf mania

Surf Ninjas is a new movie set for release in the States this summer. Sega have the rights to produce a game which recreates the movie scenario of surreal villains, mystical powers and surf, via our surf. Johnny McGuire visits the Pacific Islands to claim the throne of his royal bloodline — but the evil Colonel Cui is also after the throne title.

Coming to the small screen...

Sega have a great selection of new Game Gear titles for the remainder of the year, many announced at the Chicago CES show.

Here's a list of forthcoming Sega-produced handheld games. The majority don't have an official UK release date or price yet but have a nose at the American States. Expect UK releases a couple of months later or play tuned to G-FORCE for official dates.

Deep Duck Trouble	December
Exotic: The Dolphin	October
Jeopardy Park	August
MLB: Dave Robinson	November
NHL: Joe Hartman	November
Pen and Whimpy	November
Sonic Chase	November
Warrior of Stage II	July
Surf Ninjas	August
World Series Baseball	August
X-Men	December

Out for a Duck

D isney fans can expect an all-new, camp, cartoon-style adventure before the end of the year. Deep Duck Trouble carries Donald Duck in his starring role.

Written on a thrilling treasure hunt, *Deep Duck Trouble* has a second pendant hidden in an ancient map. Now he's setting up like a ballroom dancer's friend and to break the curse and save his expanding world. Donald Trouble around the world in an attempt to replace the batteries.

His adventures take him through jungles, valleys and volcanoes to the Lost Island and its mysterious spine. Donald uses clues from Uncle Scrooge's diary to find keys, maps and other items.

Deep Duck Trouble's out in the States at the end of the summer, we'll let you know when a UK release date looks likely.



Join Master Scrooge in his quest around the globe. Bart in *The World is out on Game Gear* around July/August time from Acclaim.



Chaotic times ahead for Sonic

Handheld gamers are in for a treat — there's a new game starring *Sonic* and *Tails*, exclusive to the Game Gear.

Sonic Chase continues the adventures of the speedy investigator and his buddy as they battle Robotnik, who's up to his tricks again. This time, he's stolen a new red Chaos Emerald. Sonic and Tails must foil the villain's plans to nab more jewels.

The dynamic duo have a double mission: they must see that the five remaining Emeralds don't go missing then retrieve the red stone from Robotnik's HQ.

There are two ways to play *Sonic Chase*: race along as the blue tomcat, or use Tails' brush to get airborne and retrieve items. Expect a host of new zones and Sonic's latest toys — rocket shoes and a page stick.

Sonic Chase reaches American shores in November. If Sega choose a simultaneous worldwide release (it is Sonic 3, so UK gamers won't have to wait for Sonic to plow the game into our Christmas stockings).



Our new box of tricks

The first G-FORCE started a considerable number of Game Gear owners. Why? From letters we've received, you handheld nuts can't believe the quality of our Game Gear screenshots.

"You're using Master System screens," shrieks Steven Patton from Leicester. "Your shots are so much clearer than those in other mags. What are you doing to them?" enquires Sarah Davies of Shute-on-Trent.

Well, Gamers, we're most definitely NOT making do with MS shots. What we are using is a nifty little device that plugs into a modified Game Gear and connects directly to our screen-capturing system.

The images we get are sharper and a lot of

a lot more colourful — ours are the best GG screenshots around. Trust G-FORCE to come up with the goods!



We shoot Game Gear screenshots! We score, with greater picture clarity than any other magazine!



Gore on Gear

The Game Gear version of *Mortal Kombat* is raising competition and those worried the graphics may suffer on the small screen can stop fretting. In its early stages of production, a spokesman for Acclaim (the game's publisher) said of the *Gear* version, "This game is superb... Even the graphics on the Game Gear version are stunning." Well, he would say that, wouldn't he?

But we believe him. The versions we've seen so far are eye-popping. *Mortal Kombat* has been programmed by *Probe*, who claim the conversions include every last detail of the coin-op.

There are seven martial arts experts to enter into a two-player game or championship against computer-controlled characters. Each fighter has a range of skills and unique special moves, including the much-talked-about "Death Move."

When a character dies in a best-of-three, he simply slumps to the ground or flickers and vanishes. Not incredibly realistic. In *Mortal Kombat*, the opponent may rip off their head, yank their spinal column out or... well, we'd better leave it there — "It's all too gory for words!"

As is the case with all versions of *Mortal Kombat*, the *Gear* game will hit shelves worldwide on Monday, 13 September — "Mortal Monday." We warn you now, there's gonna be a whole lotta fightin' goin' on in computer stores.

The price has yet to be confirmed, but we'll have all you need to know real soon when we take an in-depth look at the handheld version.

Give it a go, Joe

Scheduled for release by the end of the year is *NFL Football*. Starring Joe Montana, follow-up to the successful Joe Montana Football II is licensed by the National Football League and NFL Player's Association. Play with real teams and players who have their own logos, stats and attributes. *NFL Football* has a *Game Gear* link upon.

Bond's all geared up

Following the success of MS James Bond: The Duel (SNES, SEGA FORCE 32), Bond is giving the *Gear* and sophisticated fans the opportunity to let rip on Game Gear. Once again, James is chosen to thwart Professor Oragon's plans for world domination.

There are 10 levels in the handheld version, including many of Bond's old adversaries, Jaws, Bones and Oddjob. On 100 other vermouths deadly robotic fish, nasty



robots, lava balls, plasma spheres, hot water geysers and porthole wigwags. To help save the last guys, Oragon steals several Oragon's island, containing some lives, grenades and other miscellany.

Bond must rescue hostages on each section of the island and successfully complete four missions. For example, on Level One, 007 must save those in distress, locate a bomb, set the timer and get off that section of the island before it explodes.

Action's fast and furious, the graphics look smart and levels scroll both horizontally and vertically. *James Bond: The Duel* is available at the end of July, priced £27.95. Look out for a review in the next issue of *G-Force*.



Above: Slumping to conquer, Bond dodges an evil guard's bullets.



Left: Being able to the while climbing makes things simpler.



Above: Bond must find hostages aboard an oil tanker.



Cheats on tap

Infinte lives, unlimited energy, unlimited power, extra fast and ammunition — all these are yours when you tap into the power of the Game Gear Pro Action Replay cart from Data. This smart box of tricks has gone down as steam on the Mega Drive and Master System, and now handheld buffs can cheat to their heart's content. Slot a game into the Pro Action Replay cart then plug the whole unit into your Game Gear.

The cart's easy to use. Just enter the specific codes for the game you're playing (extra lives, invincibility etc) and away you go. It's as simple as that! A nifty feature of the Pro Action Replay is the Infinite Code Generator, which allows players to discover their own cheats.

The cart comes complete with a code book packed with cheats for games like *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*, *Castle Dracula* and *Prince of Persia*, and there's a registration form to join the Pro Action Replay Users' Club. Members receive the latest Action Replay news and cheat updates.

The Game Gear Pro Action Replay Cart is available now in all good computer and games stores, priced £59.99. For more information, give Data a ring on (0762) 744 324.

Yakety Yak!

Ever heard of Ben and Stinky?

They're two bawdy characters from the USA who're just out animated series. The *Ben and Stinky Show* (now the duo are due to star in their own GG game, set for release in the States this summer and in the UK before Christmas). The bosses of the Great Shaven Yak have been stolen by Ben Halk and Stinkyton J. Cat must recover them. On their travels they encounter a host of perils, including fire monsters, toxic and egg-bombing bunnies. Prepare yourselves for a surreal cartoon adventure.



Carry OK!

The latest Game Gear accessory is on its way from the States. The Deluxe Game Gear Carry-All has been designed for handheld freaks who are always on the move. This durable case lets



GG owners organize a wide assortment of carts, and accessories into a single light, compact package.

The main compartment holds the Game Gear itself. Rechargeable

Battery Pack, Wave Gear, Car Adapter, TV Tuner and room for up to 12 carts. There are additional compartments for game instructions and personal items.

The Deluxe Carry-All features a grip handle and removable shoulder strap. Due for release in the USA this summer, a British release looks hopeful shortly after. More news when we get it.

Gaming ahead

Sega continue to dominate the portable game market. They're packaging *Sonic 3* with the GG and are planning to increase the number of new titles from now until Christmas. A further *hundred* third and *third* party games are planned, plus *two* new carry-on accessories.

Striking on handheld

It's about time Game Gear owners had a cracking shoot-'em-up/sprite game. The wait is over as *Desert Strike* (GA's word-of-mouth *Desert Strike* into Game Gear).

The 8-bit version's being programmed by Domark's in-house console wizards, The Keenins. It's hard to believe, but the guys have squeezed almost every drop of the 18-bit game into the small screen.

The storyline's identical to that of the MD version. The rebel General Kibaba is set to dominate another oil-rich state and the Americans are called upon to get rid of him and return prosperity to the people. As a helicopter pilot in the American Air Corp, you fly round the Middle East, battling Kibaba's dedicated troops.

There are four campaigns to master, each consisting of 27 missions, and three weapons



at your disposal: machine guns, Hydraz and Hellfire missiles. Not only must you worry about completing each mission, there are tactical searches for ammo, fuel and armour supplies, too.

Domark have retained the speed of the Mega Drive game — swirling and helicopter movement are well smart — but gameplay's never tougher. We can't wait to see a finished version.

Game Gear *Desert Strike* should be in the shops around September time. In the meantime, have a lookie'n at these screenshots.



If there's any confusion, simply pause the game to view mission data.



Rotar blades vs caterpillar tracks as you take on Kibaba's forces.



Fast landscapes such as this scroll smoothly around with remarkable speed.

Tengen World Cup Soccer

If you follow football, you won't want reminding that our once-great footballing nation is now just a minnow in the realms of world soccer. Can you redress the balance with Tengen's imminent boots 'n' ball release?



Is that goalie praying for Messi? Or just conceding a silly goal?

WARREN 78% What a tangled web these software houses weave! Sega sandwiched the words *World Cup Soccer* between *Techno* and *3D* for the MS release, but now Danmark have the rights for Game Gear and MS versions under the banner of Tengen *World Cup Soccer*.

Although the GG's basically a handy-sized MS, many people forget it has a faster processor. The speedier graphics and sharper control response dramatically increase playability; it's still an unsophisticated game design but fun with it.

Although only a couple of dozen pixels high, the football sprites are lifelike and move well. The pitch is pretty dull — what can you do with a slab of grass and a few white lines? — but it scrolls smoothly and keeps up with the ball. Realistic sound effects put the big match atmosphere into your hands.

If you haven't bought *Kick Off* yet, you owe it to yourself to try both games before buying a football cart.



The Game Gear's second football cart's geared towards arcade action — you can't foul or control throws, corners and goal kicks to any great extent — but you can pass the ball all over the park and shoot some mean shots past the goalie!

World Cup Soccer presents three game types: exhibition, *World Cup* and two-player match (via the Gear-to-Gear cable). Options alter the difficulty level and match time.

Choose your teams colour, its members, subs and tactics. There are four team formations and a squad of 15 players, whose skills are increased by spending experience points following a successful match.

Buttons pass and shoot when you've got the ball and tackle when you haven't. To pass, run near the intended receiver and press the button. To shoot, just press the button within sight of goal; otherwise a stronger pass is made. Headers and overhead kicks are performed by

striking the ball at the right angle in the air.

If the scores are level at full-time, you go into a penalty shootout. These really get the adrenalin pumping and it's so frustrating to lose a *World Cup* Final on penalties.

Well, you've remembered that password so you can restart the match, can't you? Oh well, it's only four years till you get another chance! ■

PAUL 80% Correct me if I'm wrong, but didn't this appear on the Master System as *Techno World Cup '87*? It's improved since then — I gave the MS version a bettering but enjoyed this one. Perhaps it's because it's been larded up with fat digitised graphics and sound, and gameplay seems to flow faster.

Passing and shooting's the same and you can only score by hitting up with a 30-yard blaster outside the box, yet more skill's involved. All times I forget about the shallow controls and become very excited — especially when I came back from 2-0 down to win the *World Cup*. The end sequence is brilliant and digitised pictures show what the GG can do.

Tengen *World Cup* is nowhere near as engaging as *Super Kick Off* but if you prefer arcade-style sports, I recommend you give this a whirl.



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Exclusive denim jacket, signed copy of Andre Agassi Tennis plus three bum-bags must be won!

Summer and the memories of Wimbledon, hot sunburn and your favourite tennis stars practicing ground in white-blue-white whites are coming. To keep them straighter still, TestFlight have enlisted the help of tennis champ Andre Agassi to produce a top-notch sports kit.

We reviewed Andre Agassi Tennis on the Master System last time and it scored a respectable 4/5, being the glibb gameplayer that you are, you're bound to be looking for only the best PS games on the market, so Andre Agassi should be right up your practice court.

Be name and be denim

For why fork out your hard-earned pennies when you could win an autographed copy of all your sport? Well, we're joined forces with TestFlight to present an EXCLUSIVE competition.

My first prize is an exclusive Andre Agassi TestFlight denim jacket, a copy of Master System Andre Agassi Tennis signed by the man himself, and three runners-up prizes of an ordinary Agassi Tennis card and a signed burning Rubber Ball.

So what brain-wringing, mind-warping puzzle of a question do you have to answer in order to win one of these amazing prizes?

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Who knocked Andre Agassi out of this year's Wimbledon?

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BEAT THE SYSTEM



Phew! The first issue's behind us and what have we got to look forward to? Issue 2, that's what! Just wait and see what I've got for you this month! There's the players' guide to Batman Returns, the all-new Action Replay column, as well as our usual array of mini-tips for all your favourite games. And don't forget to keep sending in your tips and maps. There's a £50 first prize for the best tip of the month plus various other goodies for anything half-decent. Send all your stuff to Pax at: **BEAT THE SYSTEM, SEGA MASTER FORCE, Impact Magazines, Ludlow, Shropshire SY8 1JW.** And now, prepare to join me on a tip trip to paradise as we turn the page and try to **BEAT THE SYSTEM!**

TIPS INDEX

Alice Kidd in Miracle World.....	46	Land of Illusion.....	47
Batman Returns.....	42	Prince of Persia.....	47
Bubble Bobble.....	47	Sonic the Hedgehog.....	46
Ghost House.....	46	Sonic the Hedgehog 2.....	46
Global Gladiators.....	47	SuperSpace Invaders.....	47

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You could walk away in one of our posh new T-shirts!

BATMAN RETURNS

Players' Guide

Gotham City's in the grips of a colossal crime wave, masterminded by the curvaceous Catwoman and pig-ugly Penguin. Only the Caped Crusader and Boy Wonder — **or, make that Fox and Alan Barber** — can restore peace and order.



STAGE 1: Route 1

Keep going. Keep moving right, killing every one you meet. The only baddies you may have trouble with are the rolling chairs, who can only be killed when they stand up.

There are numerous pick-ups, but watch out for the flailing power-up, found on the top level.

level. Try to stay on the top platform, where the most difficult baddy you've gotta come across is the rolling chair.



Part 2: Watch out for the bomb-throwing gills at the base of the stairs. Take her out with a well-placed flailing from a safe distance then use the platforms and your grappling hook to get up to the top, avoiding the gas-sucking clown on the upper-left platform.

Flow along the top ledge so the lumberjack doesn't have chance to drop a bomb on



your middle. At the end of the building, jump off the edge and use the power-glide to slow your descent onto the lower level — you don't want to land on a baddy's head!

Once you're on the deck, it's a simple matter of taking your time. Don't make any mistakes, just make your way across the screen, taking out baddies with your trusty flailing.



STAGE 1: Route 2

The more difficult of the two routes, this requires skillful use of the Battering to you traverse the underside of a series of platforms only in the level.

Other than that, the level's pretty easy. You can make it hard on yourself by using the ground level, dodging explosive crates and gassing floors, but it's easier on the way jumping from platform to platform.

After, which the usual three times to blow it up.



Part 2 The trick here is to go to the high-top platform that means anyone who gets into. You need to use your grappling hook as a means of entrance to get onto the necessary platform.

The rest of the level's pretty easy to negotiate. Just keep on the high-points and top platforms that use a super-glide to reach the end of the level.

It may seem like a cakewalk, looking at the last goal, but when one reaches here a life, it's best to avoid traps altogether.



Fire-breather

Hallow-head is a tough to beat, as long as you've got his resume saved. His first attack takes the form of flames from his mouth, then he breathes out a spiraling jet of fire, and finally a column of flame sweeps the floor.

His last attack is a cakewalk and make sure you're out of range for the first two attacks and ready to jump the last one. Get this down to a fine art and he's history.

STAGE 2

STAGE 2: Route 1

The action takes place in a department store, where the exasperated employees carry you straight into a bad guy life very careful when you keep on.



Villains pop out of every doorway as approach each level with caution. Use your Battering as soon as you see a door open and stick to the ceilings as much as possible.



Thin floors can be climbed through and there are loads of pick-ups hidden in various parts of the level.



Part 2 More of the same! There's a quick way to complete this level: go to the far-left of the level and climb up through the floors.

If you're not good with the grappling hook, take the long way around, which involves virtually every floor in the building (but you get to pick up all the bonuses).



STAGE 2: Route 2

Blooper! Look, the level's tough! The first enemy's involved full of bad guys, but that's nothing compared to the city grappling hook work you need to get through the stage.

This route's laid out in the same style as the first, except every floor turns into flames! The best bet is to climb to the top and work your way across to the right.

The end's located in the lower floor, which means you have to climb down through the inferno. Take care when you drop through the floors or you may land in a fire pit!



Part 2 Just as tough as part one, except the floor layout's all over the place! The best option is to take your time and make sure you know where you're jumping — don't make any blind leaps, even if you can't find the way out.

If you come to a dead-end, retrace your steps until you find an alternative route. The only plus to this level are the many bonuses, but don't risk a life trying to collect them, get off this level quick!



Catwoman

The first fight with Catwoman is dead easy. All you have to do is avoid her on the ground then pluck her out of the air with your grappling hook.

When she comes back toward you, jump at the last minute and you should avoid her claws. After a few hits, she gives up and scampers off to meet The Penguin.





STAGE 3: Route 1

Ah, back to the easy life. This route's a cinch throughout, a nice solid floor beneath you.



Get down to the lower levels and watch out for the batties. When you reach the scaffold-like section, make sure you don't walk underneath yellow batties, as they have a nasty habit of dropping bombs on your head!



At the end of the first section, a collection of batties guard the exit. Watch 'em with the Batwing before they get the chance to have a jump at you.

Part 1: Slightly more tricky. Virtually all the scaffold has crumbling floors and many of the small platforms have batties on them. Again, use the grappling hook to make steady progress.



When you get near the end of the level, you come to a building. Work your way down the platforms and keep an eye out for the batties — there are loads of them and they're quite easy to collect, as long as you kill the batties first.

STAGE 3: Route 2

The layout's similar to the first route, except the floor's missing on the building sections. You've got to be fast on the grapping hook, as you need to climb under platforms for long periods.



To compensate, the scaffold sections are easy. Just remember to keep your distance from flame-throwers and don't walk under batties — always as they'll jump down on you!

The only difficult part in the building, where there are no floors, just posts to be grappled. You can't stand on them so you have to keep moving from post to post, making sure your hook's on target. If you



miss, you'll pass another two posts — miss them and a life's lost!

There's more scaffold then a building with those power-ups on top — make sure you collect them.

Part 3: As tough as the first part. Work your way to the top of the building then across the window for the staircase to a

STAGE 3

section similar to the earlier post section.

Only the first four posts have solid floor beneath them, after that falls are lost! Try climbing on the ceiling or the side section then swinging across by repeatedly pressing button [2]. Clearer the post section and it's plain sailing to the end.



Stone Giant

You've had a run-up off now! This monolithic beast's tough. Hitting him's easy but dodging the boulder he throws is another matter.

The best bet's to attack him with your Batwing then run to the back of the screen. The boulder never so lovable when they drop, the gap between them widens. Jump up before the boulder drops you and you should clear it.

Repeat the process and the game will be on his way back to the quarry in no time!

STAGE 5

Easy to get. Go right and jump over the two enemies, then right a bit more and jump over the way man. Jump onto the ledge with the blue door.



Part 1: Climb off the side of the waterfall and you can jump onto a small ledge. Jump right again, collect the speed and jump back left. Move to the edge of the ledge and jump as tall the woman with Batwing.

Now this takes some practice. Throw your grappling hook up to the ledge above. Swing from side to side, making sure the length of the hook allows you to land in between two ledges when you go left, jump off when you're about three-quarters of the way to the left.



When you eventually reach a ledge, jump right, hoping from ledge to ledge, until they disappear. Now jump right and glide to the next mound.

Part 3: Easy. Go right and jump over the two men who will otherwise kill a ball. Kill

the woman with the powerful Batwing and jump to the black door.



Part 4: Go right and jump over the first man. Kill the second Male and wait at the waterfall for the rocks to come down. Zoom across quickly and wait on the red ledge.

Collect the heart and walk along to the next group of rocks. Kill the man with the gun and go right.

Part 5: Go right and kill the sheep woman. Continue right and jump from stone to stone before they fall.

STAGE 5

Eventually you reach the end. Jump to safety.

Part 6: Change to long-range Batwing and kill the woman in the store. Jump onto the





STAGE 4: Route 1

Get as high as possible and use the fountain as many rights. Generally more of the coins, except some of the jumps need to be almost perfect.



Run as far. Use the highest path possible and collect the coins as the end. Go back left, drop down and go right to the next level.



square ledge on the right. Jump again. Get as far to the right as you can and land on the platform.

Go right and jump from ledge to ledge until the ledge which jump onto one of the moving platforms and go right until you're on the ground.

Collect the coins and go right. You're onto the big boss.



STAGE 4: Route 2

Move to the edge of the waterfall and jump up one level. Time your jump so you miss the water and land when the man on the platform moves away. Kill him before he tries.



Jump up a floor and jump on top of the fountain's base. Time a jump so the ledge on the right and kill the gnomes. Jump right, avoiding the water and finding the last 50-coin area.

Jump onto another floor on the right to you can't see with the pipe. Quickly swing right and move right until you come to the end of the pipe. Drop down and kill the two tall men.



When you get to the end of the pipe, change to Hammer and jump and chase the man. Go right and drop down off the edge. Immediately kill the man at the bottom and slowly move right. Keep on your guard and you'll get it.

Part 2: Move right and jump to the next ledge, avoiding the water. Go right, killing anyone in your path, and you can go to the final.



Catch the floor above with the grappling hook and swing up to the floor above — be careful not to hit the water fountain. Behind. Go left until you reach the end of the pipe below and a man on a waterfall's face. Use the Hammer then jump to the top.

Go right until you reach another man on top of a fountain. Kill him and jump to where he stood — while in motion, hit the bottom. Move right to safety.



Catwoman

Hard but the same as when you met her in Stage 1, except she throws knives straight down — hole in the bottom left, or right corner. This time she takes about twice as many hits.

© Warner Home Video: 1993



The Penguin

Here stand in the bottom left-hand corner and get close. Jump and hit him about six times. He should change.

Stand in the corner and throw your grappling hook straight up. Duck and the time he ends to one corner. You should go to the opposite corner. Repeat about ten times.

New use as many special moves as you can and go to the bottom left-hand corner. When he rolls, hit him once. Avoid the missiles and repeat the process.

It takes time to get things right, but eventually you'll end The Penguin maddening to a watery grave!



TIPS

ALEX KIDD IN MIRACLE WORLD

He may be new, but he knows his stuff. Our very own *Alex Kidd* takes you through one of the best-loved games on the MS. Take it easy, Alex!

Level 1:

If you punch the first two question mark boxes, the third one'll activate too.

Level 2:

Don't buy the motorcycle until you've already mastered it. Instead, activate the power brocade, go into the shop and buy the ring and invisibility.

Against *Scorchhead*, choose stone and scissors.

Level 3:

The first question mark is an extra life. When you get to the canyon, activate invisibility and kill it.

On top of the canyon boat, press down to go into a secret room. Keep going right and up and collect as much money as you can. Collect the life at the end of the level.

Level 4:

This is probably the easiest level, just get as much money as you can and win.

Level 5:

Collect as much money as you can in the helicopter. If you get hit when you're in the 'copter, you fall in the water but can swim across the rap.

Level 6:

Buy the helicopter from the shop and the capsule marked 'A'. If you've enough money left over, buy the extra life.

Once you have completed this level, keep punching the ball using button [1]. When the ball's dead, an old man appears. Read what he has to say.

Level 7:

Activate the power brocade. The first question mark box is a ring. When you see the mind reader stone, punch the top of the screen and walk right to collect it.

The next question mark is a glass, hit it and go quickly right or the ghost kills you. The next life is a life, then a ring.

For *Scorchhead*, choose scissors and paper.

GHOST HOUSE

Keep jumping on the screen and you turn a fiery colour. "Some cool" you all cry. Ah, but this colour makes you invincible! Smart, eh?

Level 8:

Buy the cone — it enables you to fly briefly in a later level. If you've used the 'A' capsule, activate the power brocade.

The first question mark's a ghost but the second's a life.

Level 9:

Collect money with the speed boat. If you get hit, you can swim to keep on top, as in Level 5.



Level 10:

Buy everything in the shop, then use the helicopter. Avoid the lightning at all costs — and hit and you lose the helicopter. Also watch the flying barrels.

Against *Paperhead* choose stone and scissors.

Level 11:

In the castle go right, up, up, right, right and get the life, then left, down, right, up, right, up. First your brother by punching the fish and wave boxes.

Now go down, left, down, left, up and get the letter. Go down, down, right, right, up for *Scorchhead*. Choose paper and paper. Hit his head three times and he's dead!



It's been brought to my attention that certain readers are unsure or unfamiliar with the Sonic 2 level-select and are confused by other cheats. All this is about to stop. Yes from now on, there's a regular section devoted to Sonic tips, so if you're new to either the MS or any of the Sonic games, this is the place to watch out for!

Sonic 2 level-select

Plug a joystick into port two and turn on your machine. When the Egg logo appears, press diagonal Up-Left and hold down both buttons. Keep them held down until Sonic and Tails appear inside the circle.

Now plug your controller into port one and press button [1]. Keep it held and go past the Sonic sign. A list of levels should appear to go ahead and choose one!

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG

Loads of lives

Get to Act 3 of Sky High Zone. From the start, walk right and drop down. As you drop, push left and you land on a platform with a spring facing left. Run left and spin off the end; you should bounce off the extra-life box and land on the spring. If keep left held down, you land back on the platform you came from.

If you do the same again, you find the extra life's still there, so simply repeat this as many times as you wish to get loads of lives. The life counter only goes up to nine but more can be collected.

Chaos Emeralds

Underground Zone, Act 3: The Chaos Emerald's on the far right of the top level. To cross the gap between the mine cart and the far platform, say in the cart after it leaves the track. When it starts to drop, jump out to the right; you should reach a stepped platform. Run along it to find a Chaos Emerald.

My High Zone, Act 3: To reach the gem, hang-glide at the top of the screen — don't fly too high or you'll lose your hang-glider. The wind blows twice; the second time, drop down a mouth and say at that height. The wind blows you up for the last time and you can get the crystal.

Aqua Lake Zone, Act 2: In the second set of massive tunnels, keep your finger on the left of the D-pad and you eventually come to the crystal. If you then remember the



control and don't press anything, you land in a room. Go left for an extra life.

Green Hill Zone, Act 2: Jump across the big pit near the end of the level and land on top of the platform with two springs on it. Jump on the springs and press right to land on a hill. The crystal's waiting for you on the right.

Clement Mountain Zone, Act 2: When you reach two conveyor belts, go along them and head up the steps, then hit the *Burrower*. Stand at the top of the slope and jump left. Go up the *Pinwheel*, and on the second, spin to the right. You should land by the Chaos stone.

Scrambled Egg Zone: To gain entrance to the final level, hit the other Sonic. If you haven't got all the crystals you won't be able to play the last stage proper, which takes place in the Crystal Egg itself...

ACTION REPLAY

If you haven't got one of these carts yet, ignore this section completely. If you have, here's another collection of crucial codes. If you've found some codes of your own, send them to me and, if they're printed, you'll get a brand new SEGA MASTER POWER T-shirt. Cool!

BUBBLE BOBBLE

80C38053 Infinite lives

80C80001 Resets X with a number for level-select (switch Action Replay off at the end of each level)

GLOBAL GLADIATORS

80C80053 Infinite lives

80C80A1F Infinite energy



LAND OF ILLUSION

80C9F053 Infinite energy

80C9F05F Infinite time

80C9A205 Infinite time

80C9A207 Infinite air



SUPER SPACE INVADERS

80C38021 Infinite lives

80C38021 Infinite energy



BUBBLE BOBBLE

Even the looniest, bubblest dragon has a hard time reaching later levels. Enter the password 85C0A40 for Level 200.

ALEX KIDD IN MIRACLE WORLD

continued:

Level 12:

Buy the life and anything you've used before.

For Scorpionhead, choose stone and stone. He's probably the hardest garden to be careful when you hit him.

Level 13:

This is hard to try to stay at the top if possible.

Level 14:

Collect the slab and go.

Level 15:

Easy! You can activate the brooder but it isn't necessary — the question mark box is a power brooder.

For Paperhead, choose stone and onions. Go past him to the right and hit the head three times.

Level 16:

Go right, down, down, right, down, left, right, right, down, right, right, right. Make an exit at the top, slide through and get the boxes (one is the power brooder, the other's a ghost). Go up and right.

You're in a room with two blocks which seem impossible to get. Punch the right wall and a bridging brick appears, one block's a life the other's a brooder. Go left, up, left, up, left, up, punch the fish box and quickly run to the exit on the left.

Go up, right, down, right, activate the flying zone and make the way more. Across the 'F' capsule, punch the brick and go down to meet Jarlan the Grease.

Choose paper and paper then walk up to him (but watch for the water which spouts out of his mouth, jump and punch his horn a couple of times to kill him). Collect the stone he drops, go up and across to the lady. Read what she says then go to the hamburger.

Last level:

Collect any money kill the frog and go down, walk over the boxes in this order: sun, waves, moon, cat, sun, moon, moon, fish, star fish. If you make a mistake, walk over sun, waves and moon.

Jump over the spikes but be careful, it's very hard. Collect the crown and you've conquered Miracle World.

Continue:

If you die, hold up and press [D] eight times when the Game Over screen appears. If you had 999 coins or more on your demise, you continue the game.

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PRINCE OF PERSIA

© Hyde from Bristol in Leicestershire has discovered some secret rooms in Demetri's Middle-Eastern romp.



Level 1

Jump over the first set of spikes, touch the door switch and knock the roof down. Climb up and run left to find a blue pool.

Level 3

When you see the skeleton sleeping, climb up to the platform on your right and run right until you find a potion.

Level 11

Kill the guard by the gallows and stand over his body. Press [Up] to knock the roof down.

Run left and you come to a dead end. Stand by the wall and allow yourself to fall (by means of a loose platform). You should land on a ledge with a green







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CART TOPPERS

TOP 20 UK MASTER SYSTEM GAMES CHART

SEGA
master
FORCE



Number



We've got a treat for you folks this issue! Take a good look at the chart on the right. Land of Illusion's still top dog at the moment but for how long?

Guess what the number one game will be next issue and you could win a SEGA MASTER FORCE t-shirt. Send your entries to the usual address and keep your fingers crossed...



Come on, if you think you're 'hard enough'! Cracking in at number three is WWF Steel Cage Challenge.



The latest Master System fighting game, Streets of Rage, blasts its way into the top ten at number five.

1	>	Land Of Illusion.....	Sega
2	▲	Tecmo Cup Soccer.....	Sega
3	NE	WWF Steel Cage Challenge.....	Acclaim
4	▲	Global Gladiators.....	Virgin
5	NE	Streets Of Rage.....	Sega
6	▼	Tax-Mania.....	Sega
7	▼	Transbot.....	Sega
8	>	Ninja.....	Sega
9	▼	Sonic 2.....	Sega
10	▼	Lemmings.....	Sega
11	▲	Batman Returns.....	Sega
12	▲	Rainbow Islands.....	Sega
13	▼	Super Kick Off.....	US Gold
14	▲	Castle Of Illusion.....	Sega
15	▼	Tom & Jerry.....	Sega
16	▼	World Class Leaderboard.....	US Gold
17	▼	New Zealand Story.....	TecMagik
18	▲	Prince Of Persia.....	Domark
19	▼	Asterix.....	Sega
20	▼	Speedball 2.....	Virgin

September 1993

SEGA
master
FORCE

chart



GUTTER GOSSIP

Flippin' typical! You book your summer holiday in February, hand over your hard-earned dosh, then a month before you go, the travel agent informs you someone's building a bloomin' multi-storey car park next to your hotel! Instead of a bucket and spade, they give you a hard hat and a pick axe...

Yep, you guessed it, I've just come back off me holidays. Most an enjoyable experience. Spent two-and-a-half hours at the airport before I even flew out! What's there to do at those places apart from buy socks and attempt to look into delectable nappies?

The hotel was great. Nice rooms. The walls made up for it. I could hear next door's bath tap dripping. I had to put up with a candle-lit bed and a small table for things they had the authority to call a table.

Don't believe what you read in the brochures when they say 'an indoor swimming pool'! That's not to be a damp wardrobe and 'breakfast in bed' is more than likely a decent full of Borden's blood cranked left by the previous holidaymakers.

Anyway — I'm back! It's raining and there's a sack full of letters waiting by my desk, just the way I like it! They've told me to overbook the price for the owner of the BEST LETTER and BEST PICTURE received each day. Now that I think you deserve nothing, well, here's SEGA MASTER FORCE T-shirt's better than a cup round the coffee with a wrestler's face, it happens.

So, send your whinnies and any other things to: GUTTER GOSSIP, SEGA MASTER FORCE, Impact Magazine, London, Shropshire ST8 1PW. Drop into the baby bottle! We certainly're getting...

Desert Island Carts

Dear Gutter Snipe

Please put more Game Gear reviews in the magazine — do, do, and secure these quarters.

Are Dave Lister, Hopper and Taylor & Lister coming out on the Game Gear? What are your five favourite GG games? Any plans going to be any exciting games on the Game Gear?

Andrew Penney, Ipswich, Suffolk

Whinge! Whinge! Whinge! For you, Andrew, and other Game Gear owners, there's **GI-FORCE**. The reviews you see in there are the latest Game Gear titles which allowed to cover. If the software houses concerned tell us we can't review them, we feature some items or previews. If it's coming out, it's in **GI-FORCE**. So — stop your whinging.

Game Gear Desert Isles is due out in September. Meanwhile and Taylor & Lister aren't planned for the Game Gear.

If I was plucked on a desert island, only to be told I'd be there for 48 days and nights with nothing more than a ten-pipe cigarette, a stretchy lycra bandana and a copy of *Blind*, I'd take my Game Gear and my Top Five carts, which are: *Prince Of Persia*, *Land Of Illusion*, *Super Kick Off*, *Samurai* and *Ghostbusters*.

Animals are the ones for wedding games — *WWII Seal* Game Challenge is their next sporting release. How do all with you?

Philly Snipe's on the loose. Could be news of my starring role in a new rib-docking sitcom...

Beat the System

Dear Gutter Snipe

I own a Master System and feel it's about time to try a Gg 'thank you' to companies like **US Gold**, **Virgin**, **TooMany** and **Demonix**. It is worth for the best at these software houses, as Master System owners would have to put up with the sub-standard MD games. I can't say them out from time to time.

I just wonder why companies like Virgin keep on producing these games, while others, such as Electronic Arts, prefer us to touch the machine. Any idea?

Chris Whitmore, Gresham

Basically, Chris, I think companies like TooMany and US Gold realise there are a hell of a lot of fans out there who own Master Systems and Game Gears. There's still a market for these products and, if time and care is taken over them, the games can be excellent. Look at *Demonix's Prince Of Persia*, *TooMany's New Zealand Rally*, they were 100% quality games.

I reckon some companies feel there isn't money to be made in these software. Electronic Arts produce many of their console games in the United States, where the Master System's dead.

Anyway, Chris, I liked your question. If you send you a SEGA MASTER FORCE T-shirt — congratulations!

Here's... what's going

on here apparently!

Tom Penney from

Bolton's Gate,

Shropshire, shows us

some of it with his

wacky pet, of *Blitz*.



New look MS?

Dear Gutter Snipe

My son read somewhere that there was a new, streamlined MS console coming from the States. Can we then assume Sega are going to give the MS the modern a facelift?

Jon Thomas (Phy), St Albans

Your dear son is correct, Mr. Thomas. Microsoft are indeed giving their MS a facelift. A smaller design. Sega, on the other hand, only have plastic, rerelease planned for the Mega Drive and Mega-CD.

The Master System has already changed its place in the past. The original MS was a mid-range console, with a novel design. It was a bit larger than the latest but we've come to know and love.

Spot on

Dear Gg

I like the look of MD Gg! But, any Virgin Games plan to release a Master System version of *Am* Commodore plan to release any of the Dizzy games on it?

Really, why a year more your included in the credits in the back of the mag? I reckon you work the hardest out of all of them.

Michael Tomkins, Gower

Wow! Good news all round. Mike, Virgin Games are producing a version of *Am* Gg for the Master System. It's due out later this year.

Commodore tell us Dizzy the Egg will appear on Master Systems and you can't see how SEGA MASTER FORCE will be first with the name when it breaks. Commodore are also producing an 8-bit version of their court rating game, *Mega Millions*.

At last, someone shows appreciation for the work I do. I shag my pen out for this but what do I get — a Jimmy Slogder and a link up the board! I guess why I'm not included in the credits column (it's actually called 'the masthead'). So, you learn something new every time you read my line!

Philly left before I don't exist. Some have the choice to say I'm a little lower SEGA FORCE MEGA! Well let me tell you now, I don't wear underwear, I haven't got a girl named Phil and I DON'T like the Pet Shop Boys — so what!

Fishy goings on

Dear Gutter Snipe

I've got a Game Gear and, for the last couple of weeks, I've been taking a closer whether any of the following will appear on handheld: *Populous*, *Populous 2*, *San Gg*, *Secret Of Age 2*, *Secret Figure 8*, *John Madden TT*, *Amiga Speedball 2*, *Advanced Link* the Dolphin.

I don't know whether to buy Sega 2 or Secret Of Age. Which one's best?

Matthew Saulton, Pinner, Greater

What if I tell you I am, Matthew, a willing release schedule? You gamers are an impulsive lot, but you're channeling your curiosity in the wrong direction. You should be finding out about DMA, how the steam trade was invented and which came first — nuclear war or traffic jams.

Let's take the games you mentioned in the order they came. No place as present for Game Gear versions of Populous or Populous II. Son City's also a no-no. Streets Of Rage 2, on the other hand, is being released towards the end of the summer.

Now may, just, with Street Fighter II, Juke Masters '90, Stars and Stripes I am't down on my list.

Thank Heaven for Activision! US Gold have the rights to release the Game Gear version. Our boys have played the PSX game and they reckon it's almost identical to the Mega Drive version, so the handheld version's set to be a corker.

This thing is, as I write, US Gold have got the release of Hammer on hold for a while. Hopefully, we'll be able to preview or review the Game Gear version in next month's G-POWER. Keep your eyes peeled for that and then we'll tell you if it's a Hammer or not for release.

As first reported in



Hammer! This great Streetfighter II bit of Ryu was used in my article. Stephen Brown from Barbarian took that picture from me!

No guys in Streetfighter II mail! Check out this cool effort from Ryan Hunter in Star Wars.



CLANGER OF THE MONTH

Have you a friend who's fallen through Quilty's net station? Has your brother ever got his top caught in a Bubble Gum™? Has a blackbird ever pecked off your mother's nose while she was hanging out the washing?

If a member of your family, a mate, boyfriend or girlfriend has ever found themselves in a sticky situation, drop me a line and tell me about it. It'll be a rib-tickling, string-mokey situation, I could win my **CLANGER OF THE MONTH** award!

But beware, I also share the many queries I receive for Clangers. If someone asks a question I believe to be a little stupid, I'll put them in line for the sword, too.

This month's clanger comes from Shane Davis of Huddersley. Prepare to be amazed...

Dear Guster Sips

Will the Mega-CD work with my Game Gear? I can't wait to play Street Hawk and Night Trap.

I hate to burst your bubble, Shane, but you could hardly call the Game Gear a portable machine if you had to take a Mega-CD around with it! Sadly, you won't be playing Street Hawk and Night Trap. A Game-CD machine won't be coming out. Get a grip!

Joan Hoad, Barrow-in-Furness

Means quite oddball as to why your town's called Barrow-in-Furness, Simon. If anyone knows, write to me in a hour.

Well, it's more definitely true. A Hammer System version of Star Wars is coming out in the next couple of months - it's being produced by those Hammer headbats, US Gold.

One of our bats has been to play it and I'm told it looks great. It's a collection of platform, shoot-'em-up and driving action. And yes, Game Gear owners, there's a handheld version of Star Wars coming out, too.

last month's G-POWER. Even The Dolphin is due on the small screen. Sage America have pushed in October as the release date. There's no word of a US release date but I reckon it'll be a couple of months either side of the fifth volume.

Sonic. It's the better game. Trust me, I've a tape in my pocket...

Stars in your eyes

Dear Guster Sips

I'm sure there's a version of the M21 Star Wars game coming out for the Master System! I've found a Game Gear version's due.

OFF THE WALL!

If it's not Sonic, it's Streetfighter II with-you too! Not that I'm meaning of course (That makes a change-Mat) Let's see loads more pics of Ryu. Ken Chan-Li etc. Fling some Mortal Kombat pics my way and I might just dish out some special Kombat prizes!



Scott McSperran
Clydebank, Glasgow



Scott McSperran
Clydebank, Glasgow



Paul Williams
St. Leon, Cornwall



Scott McSperran
Clydebank, Glasgow



Scott McSperran
Clydebank, Glasgow



Tom Percival
Stratford



Peter Johnson
Northwich, Cheshire

US Gold have no firm release date yet, but both versions should be out around the same time. Hopefully, we'll preview the game in the next issue of **SEGA MASTER FORCE**. If we don't, you can scratch my thighs and call me Betty. It might even enjoy it.

A friend for life

Dear Gutter Slop

As last issue in the magazine world has shown support for the Master System. Thank you to every one at Impact Magazine for producing **SEGA MASTER FORCE**.

I was a regular reader of **SEGA FORCE** and your column and couldn't help but notice the list you took for me listing what many readers thought enough coverage of third software. So, the other clippings that you are sent and did something about is. *Bored Real reviews*.

For now, our family will subscribe to **SEGA MASTER FORCE**, and I advise that Page One owners purchase **SEGA FORCE MEGA**. Cheers,
P/Charles Phillips, Singapore

What a beautiful person you are! We can only thank and let other magz not humble you.

It's true, we do listen to what you're put in to say. Many MS and SG gamers weren't happy with the amount of coverage given to their machines in game magazines, were included. So we took notice and produced **SEGA MASTER FORCE**.

Before this magz starts printing nicely next, I'll just say — thanks, warmest wishes etc... (possibly — May).

TEASER TIME

A relatively new title (except to the letters column. This is my very own **SEGA MASTER FORCE** quiz to see if you've been paying attention. Here a pointer at the four questions below...

1. What's the full title of Domanti's James Bond game?
2. Which company is producing *The Real?*
3. What does *Plat* have for breakfast?
4. What's the name of our other Sega magazine?

Some of the answers are found in this issue, while others require the use of your noddle or the sparkling sense of humour I know you all possess. For down the answers in a postcard or the back of a sealed-down envelope and the best answers out of the lot will be sent also a **SEGA MASTER FORCE T-shirt**.

Send your writings to: **GUTTER SLOP, TEASER TIME, SEGA MASTER FORCE**, Impact Magazine, Ludlow, Singapore 576 17W Howler!

Wanna be a staff writer?

Dear Gutter Slop

When I learn college, I want a career as a journalist. I enjoy playing computer games, so I thought it might be nice to combine the two and become a staff writer for a computer game magazine.

The thing is, how do I go about getting into this field of work?

Archie Hayward, Bury Hill, West Midlands

What! You wanna work late nights, have no social life and chat to FR people about their pet plastic collection? Well, that's not only do you have to be a good personality. But, more importantly, you need to be able to write informative, entertaining copy that people are going to want to read.

You don't necessarily have to have a journalism background to be a magazine staff writer. Ah, who works on **SEGA FORCE MEGA**, want to be a bank clerk? You'd think he was a brainy guy, huh! No chance!

If you're serious about becoming a writer, concentrate on getting good grades in college, especially English, and send sample reviews to magazine publishers. Otherwise to say, I didn't do any of these things. They must be eating Parley's Peas in a dish — right place at the right time!

Long Live the Master System

Dear Slop Slop

I can't be the only gamer worried the Master System's about to tumble over and fall down on embankments. What are your thoughts, Gutter? How long do you think the Master System will live now the Mega Drive's got its new plaything, the Mega CD?

My man's got a Hi-Fi stereo entertainment system and he makes more credit many games about his style, rather. If you like MS another 10 months. When do you want?

Doug Cope, Northampton

Oh ya of little faith! The MS has got more life in it than an inflatable sheep! It's gonna be around for a hell of a lot longer than its months.

The MS will most definitely outlive the NES in this country. In my opinion, MS graphics are far superior to the stuff the NES has got, plus many software houses are producing games for the Master System. That's the heart of the situation.

The MS lives for as long as the software houses continue producing software. Anyo don't want to see their machines die in a



Malcolm Cook
Weybridge, Surrey



Ryan Rees-Prichett
Rochdale, Lancs



Joe Pridmore
Widcombe, Leics



Ryan Rees-Prichett
Rochdale, Lancs



Nick Thain
Hodbury, Dorset



Michael G Francis
Perry, Mid-Glamorgan



Emma Corbett
Sheepcote



Scott McSporran
Dykebank, Glasgow

hurry, but it's other companies we have to rely on to keep releasing 4-bit games. The lads have seen certain software houses release schedules and they've games planned for the Master System way into 1990, so stop your fretting.

Of course, the market will decline one day — we're sure it happens with home computers — but don't give up on the MS. You could make for a better arrangement.



Another satisfied customer

Dear Game Topper:

I got your mag delivered to my door. After reading it about five times, I decided to try my another magazine, so I bought issue 10 of Sept '89.

They are okay, alright! They had page 34 in between pages 10 and 11. The whole mag was a load of rubbish. I was disappointed at paying 1250 for it — that's 11 more than your magazine, good to write, wasn't it?

Anyway, tell you answer these questions! What's the best basketball game on the Game Gear? Is the Game Gear Action Replay card any good? Are there any fighting games like Street Fighter II due out on the 32? What MEGA MASTER (RACE) and MEGA FORCE MEGA, will there be a MEGA FORCE for Game Gear owners?

Richard Hinds, Glos, Surrey

Glad you like the mag, Michael. Pity about that other mag's pages. Perhaps they want to



test something. The Champion Edition? Whatever! I thought I was going to get plenty football but you people are really weird! This month's weekly Star Picture has been sent by Peter Johnson from Liverpool. There's an ultra-rare MEGA MASTER FORCE I don't realize it's only to you even as I type this. Wish it with good!

mag dedicated to football.

Everything that's big is happening in the Game Gear world is in MEGA.

Is for a Street Fighter II clone, the game itself will NEVER appear on the handheld, and there aren't any other games due in the same time-frame yet. The next big fighting game, I suppose, is Street Of Rage 2, out at the end of the summer.

Mortal on Master?

Dear Gulp:

I've seen loads of news about Mortal Kombat on Mega Drive, Game Gear and Mega-CD, but the Master System seems to be left out of the coverage. Is the game due on MS? If so, what?

Carl Stephens, Worcester

Well, Carl, thank Heaven you bought the

right mag 'cos, in case you hadn't noticed, Master System Mortal Kombat is the game featured in our cover this month! Correct me if I'm wrong, but I think we can safely say it's coming out on the Master System. We know the release date, too. It's Monday, 15 September, 1990 — Mortal Monday!

Once more into the wide blue yonder, dear friends. A nice selection of letters this month — keep 'em coming. Remember, there's a T-shirt up for grabs for the best letter and best piece of artwork I receive each month. I look forward to reading your entries for Glander of the Month and, when you've finished browsing, have a crack at my teasers — there's a T-shirt on offer there, too. Catch you next month. Stick with me folks, I've £10,000 shovelled down me shorts...



Stuart Robinson
Surrey, Surrey



Scott McSperran
Clydebank, Glasgow



Andrew Taylor
West Lothian, Scotland



Scott McSperran
Clydebank, Glasgow



Adam Condit
Birmingham



Donna Keir
Aberdeen



Paul Williams
St. Ives, Cornwall

WAY THE MA BE WITH

Nineteen issues of SEGA FORCE gave you the best possible in Master System coverage, but now we've gone one better — with SEGA MASTER FORCE there's no longer any need to share...



No 1

Back To The Future: Harvest Of The Lions, Leader Team! Phooz, Outflank Bunnies, Shadow Of The Beast, Solid Tender, Super Kick Off



No 2

Donald Duck, G.U.R.C. Kix, Rampart, Running Battle, Super Space Invaders



No 3

For A Girl, Shadow Hunter, Sonic The Hedgehog, Space Warrior, Super Kick Off



No 7

Mobile Madness, Olympic Gold, Prince Of Persia, Legos, MD



No 8

Crash Club, King Gaiden, The Terminator



No 9

Born in The Space Platform, The New Zealand Story, SCL, Tom & Jerry



No 13

Alan S. Robin Hood, Superman, Wonderboy 3



No 14

Predator 1, Speedball 1



No 15

James Bond, Jander II



No 17

Tenacious Of Rage, Global Gladiators, World Cup '91, James Bond, Tender 1



No 18

Spider-Man 1, Krusty's Fun House



No 19

Lord Of Rulers, Superman

MASTER FORCE WITH YOU



SEGA MASTER FORCE is the world's only magazine dedicated 100% to the Sega Master System!

No. 2



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September 1993 **SEGA MASTER FORCE**

subs

COMPUTER CHAIR

welcome to the next level



MASTER MARKET

You've got your Master System, but how do the old and newer games shape up for your 8-bit wonder? A-ha! That's where the **SEGA MASTER FORCE Buyers' Guide** comes in handy. Within the next few pages, you'll find a comprehensive list of every Master System game released over the past couple of years. We've gone to mind-boggling lengths to categorise each game so if you're after a top-notch beat-'em-up, for instance, just turn to the Arcade section. You'll discover everything you need to know about your next essential purchase — and more! Oh yes, first, then...

We'd like to express our thanks to the following companies, who tirelessly supply us with games each month and to make a cheery grin when we return them later! Without them, this guide wouldn't be the informative, colourful, localised-free supplement it is today! Cheers, forever!

ACE.....	071 439 1185
AMS.....	081 2010 535
Comstar.....	0184 361 698
Game Zone.....	0908 338 696
Killer Konsoles.....	0418 367 406
Krazy Konsoles.....	0432 342 901
Mr Disk.....	031 616 1168
Telegames.....	0533 880 445
Video Game Bar.....	0435 616 705
Video Games Centre.....	0202 527 314

September 1993

SEGA MASTER SYSTEM

guide

Arcade

Coin-op conversions and mixed-genre games make these carts the most action-packed around. Old classics and revamps, like in Virgin's compilation, have the best staying power.

ARCADE SMASH UPS

VIRGIN £12.99 Tel 081 760 2155 **85%**
These updated versions of *Mega Command*, *Conquest* and *Break Out* are most individually but together form a good package, especially for the newcomer. Where else can you get games for £11 each?

BACK TO THE FUTURE II

IMAGEWORKS £14.99 Tel N/A **62%**
Racing, shoot-'em-up and two puzzle sections make up this game-of-the-film. Crude, blurry graphics and frustrating gameplay put it firmly in the past.

BACK TO THE FUTURE III

ACCLAIM £12.99 Tel 042 877788 **33%**
As Doc, chase a runaway carriage. As Marty in later sections, throw pies and walk along the top of a train. Graphics are excellent but gameplay's infuriating.

THE FLINTSTONES

GRANDSLAM £24.99 Tel 081 488 7044 **61%**
As Fred, paint the living room, drive to the bowling alley, load (surprised?) and rescue Pebbles. Boring gameplay isn't rescued by cutesy but could-be-better graphics.

MARBLE MADNESS

VIRGIN £12.99 Tel 081 760 2155 **76%**
Under a time limit, guide a fragile marble over strange land-scapes and past weird creatures. Great graphics and unique gameplay but too few levels.

MASTER OF DARKNESS

SEGA £12.99 Tel 071 373 1800 **77%**
As Dr Social, track Omura through five levels of Celia London. Spooky graphics and sounds as you battle re-animated creatures. Boredom goes tough.

MS PACMAN

DOMARK £14.99 Tel 081 760 2121 **88%**
Essentially the old fave, *Pacman*. At its best a feminine spin, speed-up option, reversible mazes and level settings. Ancient coin-op graphics but all the playability.



RENEGADE

SEGA £14.99 Tel 071 373 1800 **67%**
Your girl's been snubbed and you are parched, kids, kneeballs and marmite drives to make the junkie responsible. The graphics are too clear for the gritty but repetitive action.

STREETS OF RAGE

SEGA £12.99 Tel 071 373 1800 **81%**
Clean up the streets as you lead for a crime boss's city-scraper headquarters. There's an array of moves and weapons, cool sprites and good FX. Truly exciting gameplay a class below *Run-up*.

STRIDER

SEGA £12.99 Tel 071 373 1800 **42%**
The sloth of the commanding Strider's sword isn't as impressive as it should be. Although graphics are great static, they're slow-moving and enemies are few and far between. Dullsville.

STRIDER 2

US GOLD £12.99 Tel 031 425 1344 **74%**
The Master's swording trouble again, but this time Strider's fast as well as graceful. Some of the robot guardians are suitably tough but the action's engaging enough. A try before you buy!

SUPERMAN

VIRGIN £15.99 Tel 081 760 2155 **66%**
Several of Metropolis's inhabitants have gone missing — including Superman's beloved Lois Lane! He can't use all his powers in the same stage and must collect items to keep energy up. Graphics are action-packed but the Man of Steel's difficult to control and the rules are obscure.

Arcade Adventure

Perfect for those who want to use equal parts of brain and digital dexterity, *Prince Of Persia* sports the best MS animation ever.



ASTERIX

SEGA £12.99 Tel 071 373 1800 **82%**
The ferret Gaul and his lieutenants, Obelix, are on the way to Rome to rescue their druid shams. Obelix, both level and played as Asterix or Obelix, which allows the humor and features satirizing or dramatically. Use their different characteristics to defeat Romans and solve cunning platform puzzles. Sprites are almost identical to the comic characters, playability's high and Obelix's moves do — twice.

BART VS THE SPACE MUTANTS

FLYING EDGE £12.99 Tel 042 877788 **92%**

Space Mutants are making a machine to conquer the world — and only Bart knows about it! Colorful backgrounds and cartoon sprites are par with the MD, good FX and complex back up this challenging romp.

HEROES OF THE LANCE

US GOLD £12.99 Tel 031 425 1344 **68%**
Billed as an RPG, it's even an exaggeration to call this an arcade adventure. Send your band of eight adventures in search of the Gods of Mythical. Simple arcade combat and sluggish controls but solid graphics and a huge playing area. No save option, though!

LAND OF ILLUSION

SEGA £12.99 Tel 071 373 1800 **92%**
Wile E. Coyote is search for a jewel and the phantom who stole it. Mickey-bus-business (silly enemies, throw rocks on others). Special items have to be found and used to complete levels, some of which have to be solved puzzles. Graphics and sound are superb, and although it's fairly easy, it's playable enough to complete time and again.

PRINCE OF PERSIA

DOMARK £14.99 Tel 081 760 2121 **93%**
Leap chains and splats, dive through razor-sharp showers, activate pressure pads and deal with guards — when you find the scimitar. You've got to negotiate 12 levels and rescue the lady. Animation is jaw-droppingly good and the rule is addictive.



SHADOW OF THE BEAST

TECHMAN £14.99 Tel 071 343 1878 **70%**

Once again, *The Beast* involves controlling plans and not enemies to find and defeat the beastly master. Keys, poisons and weapons are collected, although fire is more often used to defeat many enemies. Most graphics touches and increased adventure elements make it better than the MD version but gameplay lacks variety.

SPIDER-MAN 2

FLYING EDGE £24.99 Tel 042 877788 **82%**
Spider's up again as of his toughest foe is the two-part levels. Objects need to be found and used to gain access to others' lairs. Graphics and sound are nothing special but gameplay's great.

WONDERBOY 3 IN MONSTER WORLD

SEGA £12.99 Tel 071 373 1800 **75%**

Wonderboy's got a number of tricks that eventually enable him to escape. There are traps to dodge, obstacles to jump and monsters to kill, plus plenty of people and objects to interact with. Although not as popular as *Series*, Wonderboy's adventures are still fun to play.

Platformers

Conquer villains and strange lands in leaps and bounds. A range of styles is represented here, from the craggy strategy of *Chuck Rock* to the eco-friendly geek of *Global Gladiators*.

ALEX KIDD IN TEK WORLD

SEGA £19.99 Tel 071 373 3000 **78%**
The most popular MS character after Sonic, Alex Kidd faces some tough challenges in Hi-Tek World. Fun platform action and cute graphics make this one a winner.



BATMAN RETURNS

SEGA £19.99 Tel 071 373 3000 **54%**
A poor MS outing for the caped crusader as the battles against the evil Penguin and Commissioner Froweough prove this game a high variability mark.



BONANZA BRDS

SEGA £19.99 Tel 071 373 3000 **76%**
As Bala (the bird) goes riding in this version, break too barriers, collect swag and shoot or star guards. A cash-grabbing subverted addi depth to this really cute-up conversion, which features amusing Lego People graphics.

CHUCK ROCK

VIRGIN £11.99 Tel 081 740 2333 **91%**
Crimson caverns in this ugly drug-user is hell against the tens of thousands. Chuck Rock also chuck rocks! Vertical and lateral sections and puzzle elements help make this one of the most playable MS platform games.

GLOBAL GLADIATORS

VIRGIN £12.99 Tel 081 740 2333 **86%**
Deserted tombs, vast graphical effects, slick presentation, witty sprits and sounds. The eco-friendly game-play's just as good. One of the most addictive platformers there is.



JAMES BOND: THE DUEL

DOMARK £14.99 Tel 081 760 2323 **84%**
One of 887's worst enemies has kidnapped Prof Jones. First on a tank, Bond finds hostages and found parts then tangles with Grip graphics, realistic animation and four tough levels make Bond's mission a success.

THE LUCKY DIME CAPER

SEGA £12.99 Tel 071 373 3000 **78%**
Donald's platform-hopped adventure takes him around the world, using a roller and bridge to coast coasters. Graphics are gaudy and game-play's a little frustrating, but superb cartoon sprits and playability save the day.

THE NEW ZEALAND STORY

TECHMAKER £12.99 Tel 0934 461115 **93%**
Tiki the kiwi explores large platform levels, armed with love and bombs and travelling by foot, floating board, balloon, duck and underwater. Stunning inside-like graphics and frustration by additive graphics with lots of secret rooms to discover. One of the Top Ten MS games.

NINJA GAIDEN

SEGA £12.99 Tel 071 373 3000 **90%**
Ryu Harekaze! That's you (that is) as you jump, spin, climb trees, leap from girder to girder and dodge the odd throwing star or thorn. A great challenge and with camera, graphics and effects this good, you're sure to want to take it up.



RAINBOW ISLANDS

SEGA £12.99 Tel 071 373 3000 **91%**
As our Duke, make your way up vertical islands, using rainbows as bridges and waypoints. They take time to master but then game-play bites in this appropriately colourful game. Already a hit on home computers, Rainbow Islands is a blast on the Master System.

RUNNING BATTLE

SEGA £19.99 Tel 071 373 3000 **69%**
Using bats, feet and pick-up weapons, all 175 soldiers while marching through profitable areas and bases. Combat has fishy sprits, long but repetitive levels. Appropriately, the player character's called Targem Grip...

SHADOW DANCER

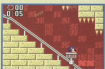
SEGA £12.99 Tel 071 373 3000 **62%**
Takashi and his band take on the Asian Green sorceress, the former with shuriken throwing stars and magic, the latter with, um, teeth. Medious backgrounds pay the price for detailed sprits. Controls are awkward and game-play unforgiving.

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG

SEGA £19.99 Tel 071 373 3000 **94%**
Undoubtedly, MS Sonic is almost identical to the HD. Fun, smooth scrolling and detailed sprits (especially those insects) are a visual feast. Although easy the game-play — colour rings, bounce on baddies, race through levels — is addictive enough to keep you coming back to complete it again and again.

SONIC 2

SEGA £14.99 Tel 071 373 3000 **92%**
Sonic bangs, glides, bounces across water, flies in balloons and battles through blocks to secret areas — as well as running fast and collecting rings, of course. It requires more thought and is more varied than the original but not quite as playable.



TAX-MANIA

SEGA £14.99 Tel 071 373 3000 **71%**
Tax mania for legendary birds and their punny agent. Warner Bros cartoon graphics really make this game. Although a much less in originality and character make it fun.

Puzzle

Pure thought and deductive reasoning (almost) replace fancy graphics — with the exception of Krusty's winning cartoon sprits and Trivial Pursuit super host.

KLAX

TECHNOMARK £29.99 Tel 081 760 2323 **81%**
Games and fly coloured this is from lines of the same colour. Graphics are drab but no worries because this simple but remarkably playable hundred-level puzzle doesn't need flashy visuals.

KRUSTY'S FUN HOUSE

PLAYING EDGE £14.99 Tel 0962 877788 **86%**
Position blocks, draw sections and fans to create dumb riddles, while using cartoon yies to kill paralling enemies. Mind-boggling puzzles, madcap platform action and hidden rooms to find. Remarkably MS-like. If you're a fan of the Simpsons then you'll love this.

LEMMINGS

SEGA £14.99 Tel 071 373 3000

93%

Use limited numbers of digging, swimming, bridge-building, climbing and floating lemmings to overcome obstacles. Loads of levels and tough yet humorously addictive gameplay make *Lemmings* irresistible.

TRIVIAL PURSUIT

DOMARK £12.99 Tel 081 786 2122

79%

Admits everyone knows this board game. The board graphic's simple but clear and the question master is excellently drawn and animated. Easy to play and plenty of questions.

Racing

Hands on the steering, pedal to the metal. Jostle for position and lean into those corners. Swear when computer cars cut you up and steal the lead...

CHASE HQ

SEGA £29.99 Tel 071 373 3000

69%

Take to the highways of America as you race at high-speed in sleek villainous criminals. Road crawling is smooth but a lack of originality makes this game dull after a while.



OUTRUN EUROPA

US GOLD £29.99 Tel 021 423 3344

87%

A racing game with bells and whistles, the controls of a motorbike, jeep or Porsche is an attempt to recreate some action plans, but your foot down, avoid obstacles and punch or shoot anyone who bothers your Fiat. Real-time graphics and a real challenge.

SCI

SEGA £12.99 Tel 071 373 3000

60%

The sequel to Chase HQ, you track down criminals' cars then shoot the hell out of them. The pins between levels are good but the road doesn't match the speed of your vehicle, it's fun for a while — it would be much better if you could blast criminals' cars, too — but there are too few levels.

SUPER MONACO GRAND PRIX 2

SEGA £24.99 Tel 071 373 3000

86%

The action takes place over 16 world championship courses and the aim is to whip Ayrton Senna's ass. Although backgrounds are dull, scintillating fast and the car handles well. It's rough but fun and the post-work session's a big help. For pure road racing, it can't be beaten.



Shoot-'em-ups

Whether aboard a space ship or plane, or running along as a future soldier, robot or cop. Masters have as many victims as they do fans. Old Arnie's Terminator's your best bet, with Alien Storm, Alien 3 and Super Space Invaders just behind.

ALIEN STORM

SEGA £29.99 Tel 071 373 3000

77%

Gordon and his flame-thrower or Blamzer and his alien whip try alone. The action unfolds as it through the hero's eyes on overhead levels, where creatures aim a gun. A little thought's required and graphics are imaginative (if blurry). A two-player option would've bolstered it.

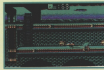


ALIEN 3

SEGA £14.99 Tel 071 373 3000

77%

This time, Ripley's stranded on a prison planet with scores of thieves and killers — poor local levels of Aliens have stuck hostages to walls. Explore four-way scrolling levels to rescue 'em, using a variety of limited ammo weapons and air ducts as short cuts. Nice presentation, well shaded backgrounds and 'terrible Aliens make mediocre gameplay fun.



G-LOC

SEGA £29.99 Tel 071 373 3000

67%

Action's viewed through the Thunderfox's cockpit but it's strictly shoot-'em-up. Armed with cannons and guided missiles, storm's replenished and the jet upstated between levels of light-dimming fun. Only half the screen's actively used and it's only pretty, but there's sufficient action and sensation of movement for a few minutes.

PREDATOR 2

ACCLAIM £12.99 Tel 0942 877111

68%

As cop Mike Hawgen, march along, blasting drug dealers, collecting weapons, destroying drugs and rescuing hostages. Totally dark, moody graphics accompany the thoughts — which get harder when the Predator shows up. Not hell but frustrating and exciting.

SAGIA

TAITO £31.99 Tel 0141 708 120 1210

46%

Plot the Silverhawk and give an alien race why? For Exos weapons and shields are collectable. Greater Bark, or the graphics look good, but control's jerky and it's a rather dull.



SMASH TV

PROSE £29.99 Tel 064

44%

Explore the rooms of gamewash arena, collect prizes and shoot and slash dangerous devils. Graphics are slow, ugly and too big for the game, sounds are mediocre and the controls are terrible.

SPACE GUN

SEGAT/TAITO £12.99 Tel 071 373 3000

45%

Viewed through the eyes of a space station defender, you slowly scroll sideways then 'less' the screen, using game-play. Life sprays are blasted with the aid of cannons, but although they're great to look at, there are few spaces, if badly animated. Slow and monotonous.

SUPER SPACE INVADERS

DOMARK/TEGEM £29.99 Tel 081 786 2122

87%

The revamped title features colorful backgrounds, various leader boards and massive mother ships. Heavily controls, simple controls, 12 levels (plus extra-long bonus sections) and simultaneous two-player all somehow make it a good buy.



THE TERMINATOR

VRGIN £12.99 Tel 081 373 3000

90%

Pure man, pure machine. At 6-11, Arnie's first blockbuster movie hit the H&M. But you're the great guy, and from the future to prevent James Cameron from the T-800 robot. Fast, heavily built, your reflexes and trigger finger — there are only five of 'em but this is no pushover! Dark, moody graphics and digitized level action are the same brilliantly.

Sport

Football fans are well catered for but there's something for those who prefer to use a club or racket, too. The multi-event, multi-player laughs of Olympic Gold are hard to beat.

CALIFORNIA GAMES 2

SEGA £12.99 Tel 071 373 3000

32%

What happened to California Games 2 if it doesn't matter? 'cos this game offering from Sega is completely null. Four events are on offer but each one is too short and the control mechanism too awkward. Not a summer sizzler by any means.



CHAMPIONS OF EUROPE

TECHNICAL £12.99 Tel 071 343 2875

81%

Variable game length, direction of play, windage, weather conditions and eight referees set the scene. A map of Europe, 34 teams to choose, computer or human opponent... Controls take time to get used but are highly versatile. Playable and humorous, cute sprites 'talking' via speech balloons.

EVANDEL HOLYFIELD BOXING

SEGA £19.99 Tel 071 373 3000

78%

Customize your boxer, make him look like you in the ring and beat his opponent! Versatile yet easy to use controls, large boxers and realistic controls bring the thrill of the ring home.

OLYMPIC GOLD

US GOLD £14.99 Tel 071 633 3344

94%

The 100m, hurdles, hammer, archery, pole vault, swimming springboard diving can be played individually, with a selection of others or all events, and there's a special Olympics Records option. Some event controls are easy, others are tricky to master, but they're all responsive to your commands. Crisp sprites, good sounds and up to four players round off the best multi-event sports game.

SLAP SHOT

SEGA £19.99 Tel 071 373 3000

62%

With Electronic Arts coming up with great sports games the NHLPA Hockey, you'd think that the league 8 to machine might benefit from a decent hockey game. There aren't four graphics and unresponsive controls make this a dreadful sports game.



SPEEDBALL 2

VRGIN £14.99 Tel 081 343 2875

78%

In a swirling high-mech arena, teams battle it out for possession of a metal ball. Bouncing it off stars and domes earns points. Collect coins to improve individual player's attributes or the team as a whole. Speedball 2's intense gameplay make it one of the best one-player sports games.

SUPER KICK OFF

US GOLD £19.99 Tel 071 633 3344

90%

Not much to look at — plain green pitch viewed from above and small, dull footballer sprites. But strategy's smooth, and motion's good and playability's tight. It takes time to adjust to the free-running ball then offers endless hours of fun, particularly with two players.

TECMO WORLD CUP '83

SEGA £14.99 Tel 071 373 3000

54%

More than 100 teams, 24 teams take part in a tournament, exhibition match or computer vs computer. Based from the stands, the player's eyes are good but it's unrealistic and there's no compass.

TENNIS ACE

SEGA £19.99 Tel 071 373 3000

72%

Wimbledon's one of the way but there's plenty of lawn-based fun to be had in Tennis Ace! Six unusual playing angle and plenty of options ensure you'll find variety of fun.



WIMBLEDON TENNIS

SEGA £19.99 Tel 071 373 3000

82%

Take a stroll in the great, still and power ratings of the 16 players available before committing yourself and going to court! Play a single match, the tournament series or two-player head-to-head game. Court graphics are simple but scrappy's smooth and sprites are clear. Simple controls, plenty of challenge and playability.

WORLD CLASS LEADERBOARD

US GOLD £19.99 Tel 071 633 3344

79%

An initially confusing but versatile flexible menu controls the modes across four full golf courses. Three skill levels, wind conditions, uneven surfaces, bunkers, rough and water hazards... pretty comprehensive. Graphics are fairly crude but it plays well.

WORLD TOURNAMENT GOLF

SEGA £19.99 Tel 071 373 3000

78%

Not quite up to the standard of World Class Leaderboard but a great golfing game anyway. A ton of options enables players to select courses, clubs and more. Up to seven players can take part in one game making challenges to be set up and laughter games to be played.



Strategy

If you're the type who likes to think and plan before they act, strategy games are for you. Unfortunately, you've only two to choose from at the moment, so it won't take long to decide which to buy first!

BANPART

DOHARTENGEN £19.99 Tel 081 780 2231

80%

A curious mixture of strategy, shoot-'em-up and puzzle, your aim is to build up a castle. First use a common right to defend it from invading ships then rotate geometric shapes to repair its walls. The combination works very well, particularly in two-player mode, where really rapid and successful moves are incredibly satisfying. Don't miss this unmissable winner.

SEGA CHESS

SEGA £14.99 Tel 071 373 3000

93%

The greatest strategy game of all time. And the Master System's busy enough to have a computer chess set that's up there with the best of 'em. Sega Chess gives two-dimensional, nine full levels, a spread of options and user-friendly controls. Graphics and sound are weak but who cares, it's chess!

So there you go, all you need to know about the best and worst Master System games available. We'll be updating the Buyer's Guide every month so stay tuned for further additions!

COMING SOON...

THE NEXT ISSUE OF SEGA MASTER FORCE IS ON SALE 19 AUGUST
MISS IT AND WE'LL CRY (OR SOMETHING!)



© Matt Crossling

How do we do it, eh? Every issue of SEGA MASTER FORCE is packed with the latest news, reviews, competitions and yes we always find a way to top the last issue. Take our October issue, for instance. We'll have full reviews of the new Sega shoot-'em-up, *Power Strike*, Accipiter's *Mortal Kombat*, *RobotCop 2* and *Formulator 2*.

EXCLUSIVE sneak peeks of *The Simpsons* Family, *Sam & The World*, *The Fantastic Adventures of Gloop* and the hot racing game, *Wipe Out*.

We'll also find out what's happening. Gutter Snipe's cooked up, check a load of top tips your way and display more wonderful 8-bit stuff than a shop that sells a lot of wonderful 8-bit stuff.

Now if that's not worth a masty £1.50, I don't know what is (there's your car for a start, Matt — Yang).

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